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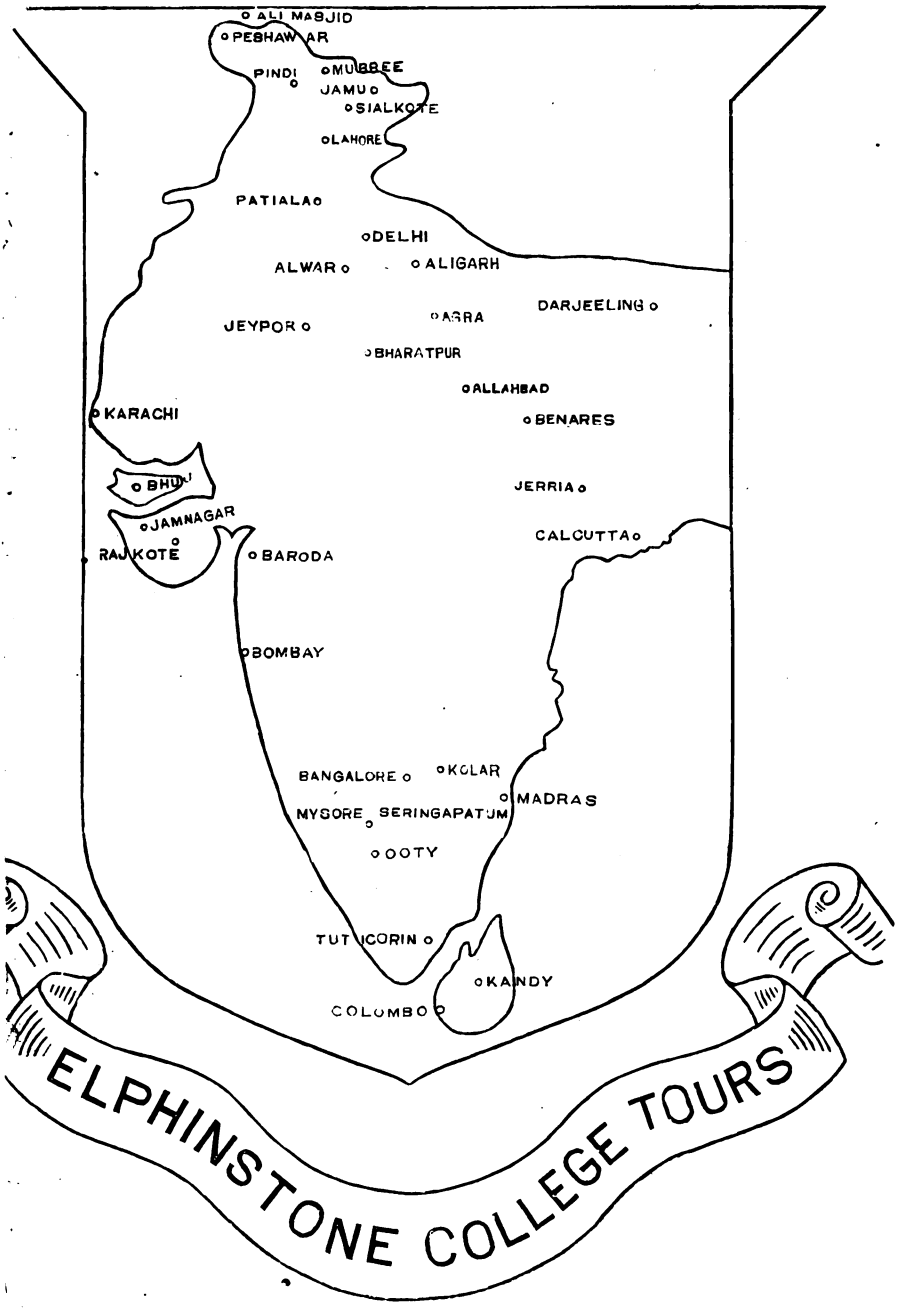

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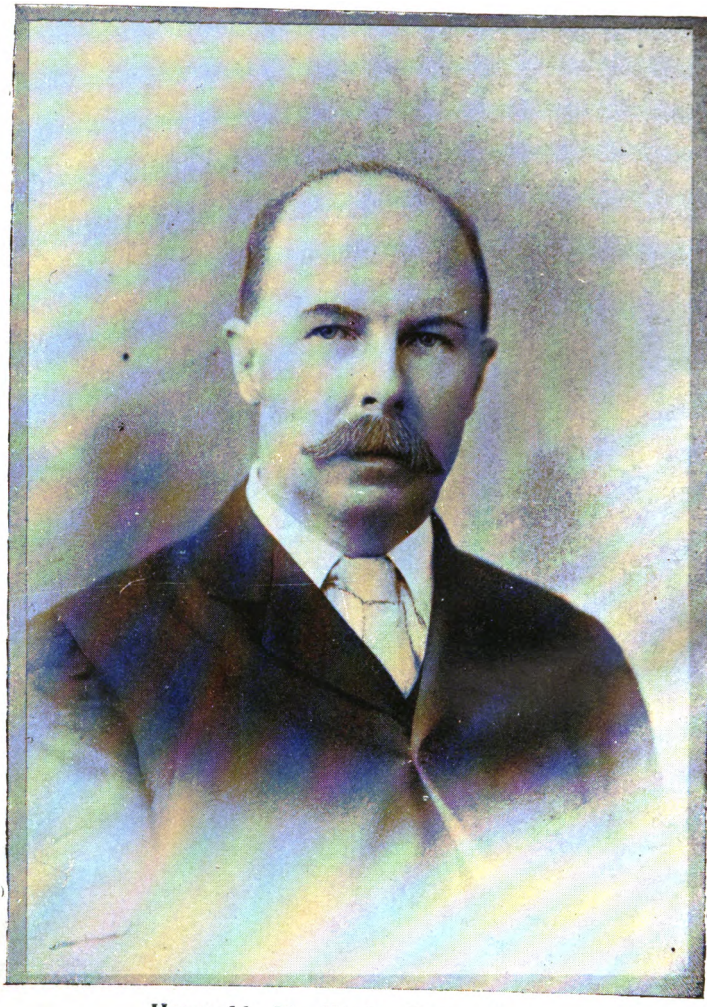

Honorable Mr. W. H. Sharp, M. A.

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ELPHINSTONE COLLEGE TOURS

BY

JAMSHED DINSHAW ANTIA, B.A.

WITH AN INTRO[illegible]

BY

PRINCIPAL A. L. COVERNTON, M.A.

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1913

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ELPHINSTONE COLLEGE TOURS

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JAMSHED DINSHAW ANTIA, B. A.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

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FORT PRINTING PRESS, By G. R. SINDHE

No. 1 Parsee Bazar Street, Fort, Bombay.

Published by Jam. D. Antia, B. A. Bandra.

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DEDICATED

TO

Honorable Mr. W. H. SHARP, M. A.,

Director of Public Instruction,

who first lent his patronising hand in organising the tour

AND

to whom the Author is deeply indebted

for his guidance and help in his college career.

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The author records his thanks

TO

J. M. FRAMJEE PATEL, Esquire, J. P.

"Nestore of Parsee Cricket"

FOR

his kind patronage given to him.

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PREFACE.

No apology is needed for the publication of this volume, which has been the outcome of the desires of several Elphinstonians to save the records of the tour from utter destruction and oblivion. The tables of the early matches have been culled out of the *Times of India*, and every effort has been made to collect the *disjecta membra* of the early history of the tour. The early part of the book has been entirely the product of memory and I trust that the readers will indulgently overlook little inaccuracies that may exist in the details of the events. The accounts which I have written in the 'Elphinstonian' have been utilised as far as necessary and have greatly helped me in my present endeavours. The word Elph. is adopted for brevity for Elphinstone and Elphinstonian and the ceremonious Mr. has been applied when it seemed necessary. The opinions and comments quoted in the book are my own and I do not regard them as infallible, and I trust my humble efforts to produce a true and faithful narration of the tours will be received with interest not only by Elphinstonians but also by lovers of the game in general. If my work, however deficient in literary and sporting merits, succeeds in giving to the tour the publicity which it deserves and induces Elphinstonians to take greater interest in it, my labours will be amply awarded.

My best thanks are due to Prof. R. Marrs for much valuable assistance to me in the shape of supervision of the manuscripts and instructions and suggestions; to Mr H. D. Karaka for sharing with me the laborious and tedious task of correcting the printed proofs and finally to the publishers Messrs. H. and N.T. Anklesaria, who have spared no pains in trying to make this book a success.

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I also express my thanks to the following gentlemen for kindly lending me several photographs which appear in this volume. All the reproductions with the exception of two only, have been prepared by Mr. J. Kharegat of Jam-e-Jamshed Press.

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JAM. D. ANTIA.

Bandra, November 1913.

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INTRODUCTION

BY

PRINCIPAL A. L. COVERNTON, M. A.

'Forewords' and prefaces are commonly works of supererogation and Mr. Jamshed D. Antia's book should need no commendation from me to gain the approval of all who play or are interested in cricket. But he has paid me the compliment of asking me to introduce it to the public and I am honoured and glad to have the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the value of the tours, whose history he records.

Except for a period of two years, I was closely associated, as Professor and Principal, with those who took part in these games and I have followed with interest the varying fortunes of the players. From the beginning it seemed to me that the proposed tours were likely to exercise a most beneficial influence on the students who participated, on the college and on Indian cricket in general. My anticipations have been amply fulfilled, and I have nothing but praise for those who have planned and and carried out a scheme which has contributed so largely to the pleasure and good of the students of Elphinstone College. There have been detractors, faultfinders and critics, as Mr. Antia points out, but these are ever with us, and I do not think that their carping criticism ever had any further foundation than that which human incapacity to realise its ideals to the full, ever affords.

In England many schools and colleges have founded Old Boys' cricket or football clubs, and such clubs frequently include amongst their engagements a continuous series of matches against

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the clubs of other counties or distant districts. But until the students of Elphinstone College began their series of cricket tours, I think such a thing had been rarely if ever, attempted by colleges or schools in India The great distances to be traversed, the consequent cost of the journeys, the difference of climate, language and living, constitute difficulties sufficient to account for this, and the wonder is rather that anyone has been bold enough to face these difficulties. A perusal of Mr. Antia's history will show how really were the obstacles to be overcome before an eleven of Bombay students could be matched in the field against the cricket veterans of Ceylon and Kashmir, Sind and Madras. I wonder how an English cricket secretary would like to be confronted with the problem of feeding, accommodating and transporting by sea and land a team of cricketers whose custom, caste or religion forbade to eat together and whose opponents or hosts were of foreign dress, language, custom and religion.

Of the pleasure and benefit which the players derived from these tours, Mr. Antia's narrative bears ample evidence. They have had opportunities of visiting many distant and most interesting places in India, in company with friends and companions of long standing and in circumstances which the generosity of subscribers rendered particularly easy. They cannot have failed to learn something of their own country, to have had their eyes opened to the variety of its character and the complexity of its administration. They have been matched against many cricketers of varied styles and methods and must have gained not only much knowledge of the game but also a juster estimate of their own merits and defects as players in the games of cricket and of life. They have been taught the difficulty and self-sacrifice that are involved in protracted combination for a common good. And from what I have observed of those who have taken part in these roving campaigns I am convinced that they have returned home not merely strengthened in body and with more command over hand and eye but with character moulded into firmer and nobler outline.

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The benefit which the players have experienced has extended to the college which educated them and perhaps beyond. These Elphinstonian touring elevens have spread the name of their college throughout the length and breadth of India. Whether they were victorious or defeated in these matches, they have given an excellent account of themselves as cricketers and, I venture to hope, as gentlemen. They have set a standard which the younger generations of students are eager to emulate and created precedents which every cricketer in the college desires to see continued. Perhaps they have done even more. They have brought the College into touch with institutions of other provinces and other Universities, and so may have contributed to break down the isolation which has characterised the Universities of India and their individual college. I do not write this merely to flatter Mr. Antia and his colleagues. That there is ground for the suggestion is shown by the proposal recently made by the Madras University to the Bombay University for an inter-university cricket match, to be played alternately in Madras and Bombay. If this proposal takes effect, as seems likely, I think our Elphinstonians may fairly claim to have prepared the ground for it by familiarising Indian students with the possibility and the benefit of an exchange of visits by representative athletic teams. That a system of inter-provincial or inter-university matches is a much more interesting arrangement, and one likely to produce more far-reaching and permanent educational results, is of course obvious. But it is only fair to recognise the value of the steps which have led up to this important proposal. Nor is there any reason why the organisation of inter-university matches should put an end to the organisation of cricketing tours by individual clubs, whether of colleges or not. Such tours will keep the player's hand and eye in practice in the intervals between the cricket seasons of this Presidency, bring to light hidden talent, give experience to the young, and familiarise the cricketers of this Presidency with the strength of possible opponents in other provinces.

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I think, then, that Mr. Antia and his associates have ample reason to be proud of their achievements of justification for this history. I hope that it will have an interest for a wider circle than those for whom it was primarily designed, the past and present students of Elphinstone College. And the fact that their achievements have become material of history should not in my opinion be taken to mean that such tours are now to be matters of the past.

A. L. COVERNTON.

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Letter from

PROFESSOR E. A. WODEHOUSE, M.A.

CENTRAL HINDU COLLEGE,
BENARES,
March 9th 1913.

MY DEAR ANTIA,

I am glad to hear that you are doing something towards providing a more permanent record of the annual cricket tours than can be derived either from the score-books or from the accounts in the "Elphinstonian." The book, when it appears should be of interest not merely to those who took part in the tours themselves but to all who like to keep in touch with the doings of the College. The annual cricket tour is certainly one of the pleasantest, and at the same time one of the most important of the College activities. They help to make the College widely known in other parts of India, and it does much for the *esprit de corps* of the institution itself. I for my own part, always remember the very cheery and friendly spirit which prevailed amongst us all on the two occasions when we visited Karachi in 1905 and 1906, as well as the hospitable welcome which we received from our hosts on both occasions. The details of the tours, such as results of matches etc, have of course largely faded from my mind but the general setting of the tours, the pleasant hours spent in the pavilion at the Parsi Institute, the billiard matches and the tennis, and all the rest of it are still fresh memories. I have often wished that it had been possible for me to accompany the team again in recent years, but have unfortunately not been able to do this, although we had the pleasure of welcoming the Elphinstonian team here at Benares last year.

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One thing I trust is that you have now found out some more satisfactory way of selecting the teams than we had a few years ago ; for I recollect that there was always a good deal of trouble over the choice of players. This, it is true, came, for the most part, from one or two individuals who were not active cricketers but who took it upon themselves to act as general critics of everything done in the College gymkhana, more or less as a matter of course. But it was none the less unpleasant to have the constant criticisms, the allegations of favouritism and unfairness in the selection of the team, or at least suggestions of ignorance as to the comparative form of the various players,—which we used to have so freely then. I particularly remember the trouble we had then in connection with the second tour to Karachi and the demand, then made, that we should not call ourselves the Elphinstone College gymkhana team at all. One unfortunate result was that a team, sent out under such circumstances, always had the feeling that, unless it won all its matches and did brilliantly, the clamourous tongues of the critics would begin wagging all the more loudly, when it got back and this could not but have some effect upon its form.

I forget exactly how we used to select our teams then ; but imagine it was in the fairest manner possible and with the sincere desire to do our best for the College. But the loquacious gentlemen, above alluded to, could never understand this, and would suggest quite freely, I believe, that the selection was entirely a matter of personal favouritism and that the omission of one or two players, whom they happened to support, was deliberately done at the expense of honesty and justice. I cannot refrain from expressing my opinion about these persons quite candidly because I feel that they deserve it ; and am moreover of opinion that this kind of critical spirit and the readiness to see the worst side of everything and to attribute the worst motives, is one of the most deplorable influences that can spring up in a College. I trust that things are better now

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and that the armchair critics are not so much to the fore as they were before.

Turning from this point to another of a pleasanter nature, I feel that no one can have had anything to do with the Elphinstonian cricket tours without feeling grateful to Mr. Dadachanji for all that he did in the capacity as Secretary and Manager. His zeal and energy were always remarkable and much of the success of the tours in his time, was undoubtedly due to his efforts. I gather that of late years he has no longer carried on this work ; but at all events he set a fine example to his successors and the tradition of keeness and efficiency, which he started, will not easily disappear.

I see from the latest numbsr of the "Elphinstonian" that many of the old names are no longer to be found in the list of players. Watcha of course, is still going strong, with the Jessopian Mulla and yourself and your brother. Gimi too I am glad to see, is making runs as he used to—he was, if I remember rightly, the most consistent of our bats on both our Karachi tours—; but one misses the names of Jemi Modi and, of P. H. Judge, and Chothia, and D. N. Vakil and others, who were with us on these occasions. Notwithstanding that, I note that the Elphinstonian team this year did great things against Patiala (with its imported talent) and that it had a batsman in a gentleman whom in your account, you call Gunpat P. and nothing further,—so that I don't know his full name.

Well, I do not think that I have anything further to add to this brief line. Had not six long years elapsed since my last Elphinstonian tour, I might have had more to say, for my memory would have been fresher. As it is, the visits to Karachi in 1905 aod 1906 seem rather ancient history. But what I do remember of them is of the pleasantest nature, and I am still sufficiently an Elphinstonian to take a keen interest in the fortunes of my old College and to rejoice in its successes. I hope

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that the great cricketing days of the college are not over, but that new crops of Telangs and Modis, of Chothias, Mullas and Antias, are coming on to maintain its old time prestige. I hope also that the annual cricket tour will continue to be a regular fixture and may serve to make the name of the Elphinstone College Gymkhana a terror throughout the length and breadth of this country.

Believe me,

My dear Antia,

Yours very sincerely,

E. A. WODEHOUSE.

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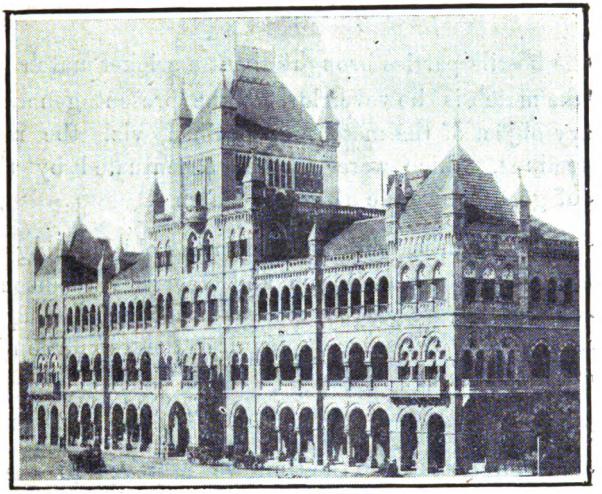

The Elphinstone College.

CHAPTER I.

Retrospect of College Cricket.

Although it cannot be ascertained exactly at what period cricket began at the College, still there is ample evidence to show that it was played in its early times. In absence of regular records of the College, stray incidents handed over from generation to generation, are the only means, which enable one to infer that cricket though not flourishing, had its existence since the institution of the College. It is stated that during the early fifties of the last century, students were taken on an excursion to Purandhar by their much revered principal, Sir Alexander Grant. But whether it was primarily for cricket or for any other purpose, is not known definitely. One thing is however certain that they played a match and that too under very peculiar circumstances. Through some agency or another the sturdy Elphs. came at loggers head with the soldiers of that military station and Sir Alexander in order to bring about a reconciliation

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between the hostile parties brought about a cricket match. The final result of the match is however lost to the present generation, but the primary object of the match was attained, viz. the restoration of good feelings, which were further accentuated by the deep draughts of good brown ale after the match.

Our early ventures, while located in the old building at Parel, were against such clubs as Bolton and George Rawlinson Cricket Clubs, and though we played several other matches against the local elevens, yet we had scarcely acquired the reputation of being called a "class" team.

But the real history of our College cricket of which every Elph. is proud, dates from the time we removed to the present building. A year later in May 1889, the College was gifted with a large plot of ground for recreation purposes by H.E. Lord Harris, the then Governor of Bombay. The College is therefore indebted to Lord Harris for its glorious sporting tradition, for without the ground, it is doubtful whether the sporting record would have been half as brilliant as it is now. Not only Elphs. but cricketers in general owe not a little to him for the fostering care under which this manly game made rapid strides in the Bombay Presidency, during his regime. A lord amongst cricketers and a cricketer amongst lords, his name will ever be cherished as the greatest patron of Bombay cricketers in general and of Parsees in particular. It was with no little delight that the Elphs. hailed the acquisition of this ground with its healthy and beautiful surroundings, which has been the cradle of many a great cricketer and sportman.

The College having been accorded this additional facility, the game which was checked in inconvenient surroundings at Parel, now began to increase in popularity. One of the best achievements of the College at that period, was the disposal of the best team of the Parsee Gymkhana for the paltry sum of 27 runs. Some of the principal players were, Darasha Talyarkhan, E. Talyarkhan, B. Doctor, D. Mulla, P. Davar, D. Surty and K. Kharas.

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In the year 1900, our Gymkhana was first instituted. The names of Messrs. D. Surty and K. Kharas may be closely associated with its pioneer work. But pioneer work is always slow and full of difficulties and as those were days of voluntary subscription, the state of the Gymkhana was far from flourishing, and the game remained stagnant. Later on Mr. S. F. Mulla took the reins of administration and organisation in his hands and the Gymkhana underwent rapid changes. Although Mr. Mulla had not the upper hand in the original formation and promotion of the Gymkhana, yet to him is the honour of placing it on a firmer, more satisfactory and workable basis. But even during those days, the ground was not what it is now; it was rugged and without any turf or suitable level. All the matches were played on the maidan, in which none but the players took any interest. In February 1892, Prof. Muller arrived with fresh and youthful vigour from Jesus College, Cambridge and occupied himself along with Mr. Mulla in improving the affairs of the College Gymkhana. In a speech delivered to the students, he sketched out a plan of having all the matches played under the College windows, where all could look on and take interest in them and thereby make the Gymkhana popular and prosperous. The then cricket captain appreciated the idea but suggested the impossibility of carrying it out on a pitch, which was hardly good enough for a match. However Principal Oxenham and Prof. Muller put their heads together to devise some other way of making the Gymkhana popular. They made the gymkhana buy some stilts and taught the students to walk on them ; for it was the only possible way of walking on much of our ground. One day Lord Harris happening to pass by our ground, saw this and laughed at our idea of athletics and the use we made of our ground. Soon after, he attended the final match of our tennis tournament and saw matters for himself and came to learn the impossibility of making any other use of much of our ground. He very kindly induced the Government to vote a grant of Rs. 3,000 for the purpose of improving the ground and laying it out adequately for athletic purposes. Colonel G. Porter R. E. was at that making a wet basin in the Government Dockyard and was carting away much earth and

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rubbish of the old building and dumping it on the Crescent. At the request of Prof. Muller he undertook the work of filling the big hollow space of our ground and turned it into a level pitch, which was considered during its days the best in Bombay, next to the Hindoo Gymkhana.

Time after time, tennis courts were added to our ground. The Wordsworth and Telang courts were the first to be made from the contribution made by those eminent men to the Gymkhana. Later on, to commemorate the name of Lord Harris, who had done so much for our College, a third court was made and named after him. When Prof. J. G. Covernton, now Director of Public Instruction, Burmah, was married, the students subscribed a fund of Rs. 200 for his wedding present. Fortunately for our Gymkhana he was not allowed by the Government to accept it and the sum was utilised in making a fourth court called the Covernton Court, which is now used by the lady students. With plenty of cricketing talent, which was considerably improved by constant practice on our newly prepared pitch, the College soon leaped into fame in the cricket world and from that period the golden era of our College cricket may reasonably be said to begin.

Our standard of cricket was fairly high and we met some of the leading local teams with varying success. We very seldom tried conclusions with our local sister colleges. But the greatest event of the season then, was the annual fixture with the Deccan College, Poona, which was played alternately at Bombay and Poona. These matches remind one of a very humorous episode. The match was being played on our ground and our Jessop, R.J. Mody was then at the height of his batting form. He mercilessly sent ball after ball clean out of the field, without allowing the fielders a chance to catch him. The Poona Captain lost his wits and not knowing how to get rid of him tried the last recourse of posting his fielders on the road outside the railings. Of course they had to withdraw into the arena at the instruction of the umpire, who declared the illegality of such an action.

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Of the well known exponents of the game of those years, passing notice is all that can be taken in this volume. Of S. Mulla, P. Vakil, K. Kharas, M. Watcha, P. Davar and others there will be occasion to speak later on ; we shall therefore only touch on those, who do not figure in the history of the tour.

Of all our cricketers, Major K. M. Mistry stands out the most prominent. But are we justified in claiming him as a pucca Elph. cricketer ? He was at the College only for a term and although that qualified him for his inclusion in the category of Elphs., still it is a moot point whether he can be termed an Elph. from the cricket point of view. Possibly not; for he has never played for the College and has not earned the College colours. Still for sentimental purposes he is an Elph. because he is a great cricketer.

Prof. P. K. Telang is another in the ranks of our great cricketers and he is perhaps the greatest bat, of course next to Ranji, the Hindoos have ever produced. There may be some difference of opinion regarding the relative merits of Telang and Jairam for the paramount position in batting and though Jairam may be pronounced to be more successful in amassing runs, still in point of brilliancy and grace, Telang is by far the prettier bat of the two. His innings though short, were always bright and pleasant to watch and he was a great help to our College in the local matches, in which he took part, as late as 1909. It is a great pity that in spite of his eagerness, fate on various occasion should have prevented him from taking part in the tours.

G. Karaka was another great batsman of those early times and represented the Parsees in the international contest in 1900. A great bat and a mighty field, but a player without nerves; a drawback, which proved the cause of his failure in big games and which eventually led to his dismissal from first class matches.

S. H. Davar is perhaps the greatest wicket-keeper the College has ever turned out and if he was not the best of his times, he at least was second to none in Bombay. It is to be regretted that

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his claims for the inclusion in the Parsee team, were ruthlessly ignored by the selection committee; for since then, he has fallen into oblivion, unknown to the present cricketers for his once great prowess as a "man behind the sticks."

But in framing the list of the great cricketers, that existed before the institution of shield matches, it would be hard to omit mentioning the names of two, Kaikobad Engineer and Merwan Batliwala. Unfortunately death has deprived us of their valuable services and time of their well earned glory ; for a mere mention of their names is a revelation to the younger generation. Our present generation is always fond of singing the glories of the great heroes that did battle for our side in the shield matches, totally ignoring the brilliant achievements of the old ones who fought similarly, but under less attractive circumstances. Truly, we have short memories in that respect and a singular way of forgetting that many brave men lived before our present Achilles and Agamemnons. K. Engineer was a powerful hitter and for his great efficiency in that branch he was selected to play for the Parsees against the Bombay Presidency. He was the first Elph. who had the honour of taking part in that big match. Merwan Batliwala was a first class bowler with a fast delivery and a rare quality of having a dual break, which he varied with consummate skill and judgement. He was the most successful bowler of his time and the main stay of the College in that department of the game.

"Sport rouses manly qualities of body and mind, excites intellectual faculties, and muscular power, braces the nervous system, and stimulates arm, heart and brain to healthy effort". H. E. Lord Northcote recognising in full the truth of these words encouraged in the most generous manner the cricket proclivities of the College students, by presenting a shield to be competed for by all the Colleges of the Bombay Presidency. Ever since the institution of shield matches in 1900, College cricket, owing to the healthy rivalry subsisting between the various establishments opposed to each other, has ranked amongst the most interesting

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and attractive of the season ; and one has only to glance through the list of those, who have taken part in the big representative contests, to see how greatly cricket in general and the various communities in particular are indebted to the shield matches for the rich and ready supplies to their vacant ranks. The encouragement of cricket at Colleges is a matter, which has a very wide bearing on the education of the students. *Mans sana incorpore sano;* and cricket not only adds to the opportunity of healhty developement of the body but it serves a national and important purpose in the land of castes and creeds. It not only creates a strong bond of friendship between the students of the various colleges but manufactures a healthy *esprit de corps*, which a thousand lectures and gluttonous pouring over books will not bring about. In 1900, the competition was first made open and a great effort was made to render the event noteworthy. Great was the enthusiasm displayed in the field of sports and our ground ran gay with the presence of the Principal and professors, who delighted in witnessing the drilling of our cricketers, for the ensuing great contest. Principal M. McMillan was then at the head of the College and only an ungrateful heart would forget what he did for the gymkhana by his unswearving zeal and keen interest. He firmly believed in the truth of the old addage that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" and he devoted as much attention to the sports and drilling of his pupils as he did to their academical training. He had not only the proverbial patriotism of a Scot but the rare power of infusing some part of it in his pupils. When the College after deciding their superiority over the Bombay and Gujrat Colleges, was about to start from Bori Bunder, to play the finals at Ganeshkind, he came at the station to see his warriors " off " and on the platform made a stirring speech to rouse our spirit and enthusiasm. Amongst other sentences he said, " The Spartan mother said to her son when starting for battle 'Return with your shield, not on your shield'. I cannot give you the same alternative, as, if the eleven stalwart Parsee cricketers were to sit on the Northcote Shield, it might be seriously damaged. I therefore simply exhort you to return with your shield." In a similar manner, be once addressed the team

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actually on the cricket field, while playing the final match on the Parsee Gymkhana ground against the Fergusson College in 1904. Through some unpleasant incident, our opponents were allowed to run up a huge score of 177 runs in the first innings and our prospects of victory were far from bright. Before bowling the first ball of the second innings, Principal McMillan collected all the players in the centre of the field and in well chosen words recalled the doings of our past days and exorted us to stick to the glorious tradition of our College. He reminded the team of its brilliant and glorious performance against the Aligarh College under gloomy circumstances and asked us not to despair of victory. Intoxicated with his fiery and patriotic words, we went to the field and made short work of our opponents, and an eleven which had scored 177 in the first innings and which was one of the most formidable teams, that has ever confronted us in the shield matches, had to retire for a paltry total of 32 runs.

In 1900, we won the shield under the captaincy of R. D. Kanga. J. Mody stood high in the batting averages but was precluded from taking part in the finals owing to his twisting his knee a few days before the match. He was a brilliant bat, very strong on the off and till Mulla, Chothia and Kapadia leaped into fame, he stood first amongst the batsmen of our College. Pearson was very successful with the ball but he owed a great deal of his success to H. Cooper, who smartly devoured his victims in the slips.

In 1901, we again came out with flying colours under the leadership of J. D. Mody. Gimi was the most successful bat and holds the record for playing and being not out for 8 days (due to rain). Pearson was again in the fore front in bowling.

In 1902, we lost the shield in the second round against the Grant Medical College, through over confidence brought about by our huge score in the first innings. Long before the match was decided, some of our elated players drank to our success in the final, in red raspberry glasses and ginger punch. Some saw the Bori Bunder station, while others saw the Ganeshkind

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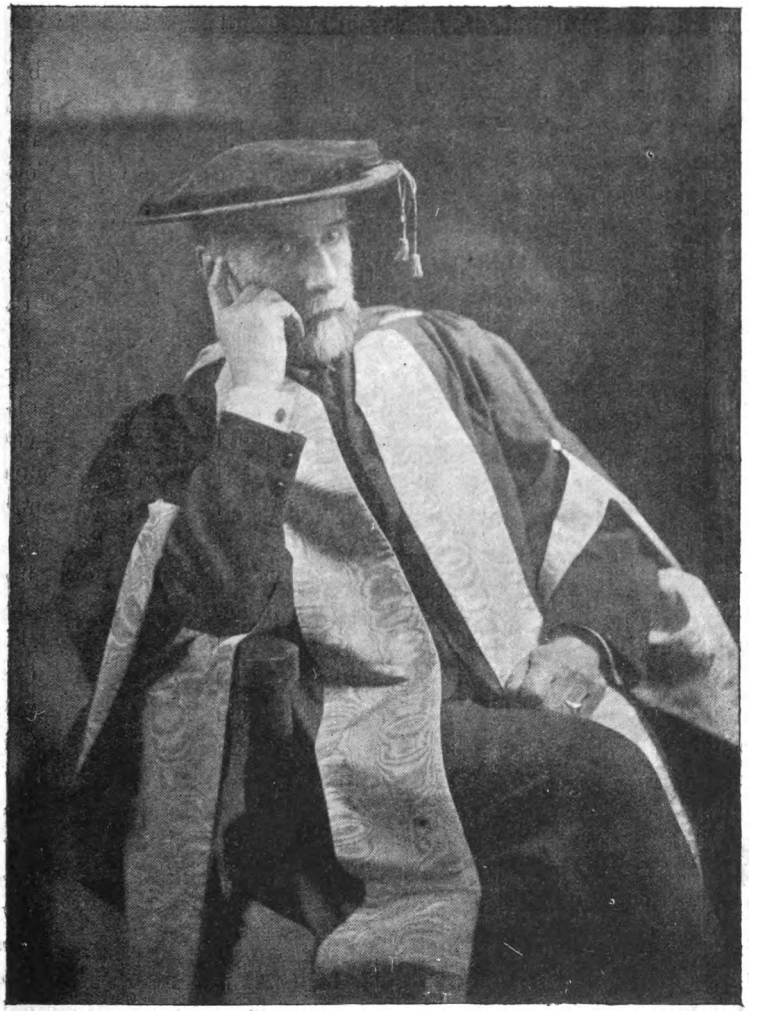

Principal M. Mc Millan

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ground and the shield. As a matter of fact they did see the station from a distance but neither saw the ground or the shield and we lost by a large margin of 8 wickets. N. Vakil better known to the College as "Chicken," was at his best with the bat and greatly aided the side in that capacity, although he proved an incapable captain.

The year 1903 saw the infusion of fresh cricket blood; but our wise critics, who have an overwhelming faith in their old defunct volcanoes, foreboded with ominous looks that the good old cricket days of the College had gone. For though heroes do not grow on every tree and during every year, still it is unjust to ignore their existence till they have fought their battle and proved their worth. No sooner was the first round played against the Medical, than the College revealed Kasad as one of our greatest shield heroes, although a very modest one. He was so very shy and modest that he used to take shelter under the cover of the umpire, to avert the eager gaze of the spectators, who cheered him madly for his excellent bowling feats. Chiefly through his bowling and partly through Mulla's vigorous batting, the College got the shield after four glorious struggles. B. F. Mehta was the captain and boasted of some modest performance in batting. This year was a memorable one for our gymkhana. The College for the first time made a great bid for the Aga Khan Hockey Cup, and after routing the powerful combination of the Bombay Gymkhana in the first round, lost against the Cathedral Old Boys, who eventually carried away the trophy. We were the first amongst the colleges to enter the competition. In the monsoon we won the Northcote Shield and in December we met our greatest rivals, the Aligarh College and had the honour of being the only team, who lowered their colours during their successful compaign against the Bombay cricketers. Neksatkhan was the hero of this match.

N. Kasad

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N. Vakil. H. Gimi. N. Ashburner. M. Neksatkhan.

FIRST HOCKEY TEAM. 1903.

V. Desai. P. Vakil. B. Pleader. J. Mody. R. Mody.
N. Engineer. J. Antia.

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In 1904, we lost the shield in the final match against the Fergussion College, partly through our slackness in the first innings and partly through the bad decisions of one of the umpires during the terminal portion of the match. M. Neksatkhan was at the top of his form, both with the bat and ball and for his exceptional abilities in all three departments of the game, he was selected to play for the Parsees at Poona. Though an excellent soldier, he was beyond doubt an inefficient captain. During this year, H. Mulla established a record by registering the first century in the shield matches.

In 1905, we again recovered the shield from our worthy opponents of the previous year. D. N. Vakil and Jeh. Antia did well with the ball, while Mulla, who was the captain, notched up another century.

In 1906, we lost the shield in the second round against the Wilson College, only through an unpleasant and deplorable incident. We say 'only' for we are prepared to maintain and a host of others, even from the hostile party will agree with us, that the side confronting us was no match for our team. We could have crushed it, if only we had kept our heads cool and our minds concentrated on the match. Much could be said over that sad incident, but it will do no good; on the contrary, a great deal of harm may result.

In 1907, we recaptured the shield. Jam. Antia scored a century in the final and headed the batting average list, while Jeh. Antia was most successful with the ball and mainly responsible for the meagre total, that our opponents scored. In this year Wagle did the first 'hat trick' for our side. This was by no means a record, for the honour of doing the first 'hat trick' in shield matches, had already been achieved by Vajifdar of the St. Xaviers College in 1903, while playing against us. Our activity during this year was not however confined to the shield matches; but we greatly aided the Hindoo and Parsee sides in the triangular contest. Not less than 6 players took part in these matches, while our seventh man, Jeh. Antia was within an

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ace of being selected for the Parsees. Apart from bare inclusion of numbers, one and all of them did creditably, especially Mulla, who rattled up 151 at Poona, an innings, which the Parsees will never forget.

In reviewing all the players that did battle for the College in the shield matches, it would not be out of place to make a special mention of those who achieved the greatest amount of success in each department. In batting H. Mulla will stand out and out superior for his consistently high scoring. His scores of 112, 117 (not out) 80,75 and others below 50, form too powerful a chain to be broken by any other shield player; while his innings, apart from their arithmetical value, were too convincing to fade away from memory. In bowling Jeh. Antia stands out very conspicuous for his long and meritorious services, especially during the last two years of his college career. Originally a bat at school, the tour of 1904 moulded him into a bowler and a great University bowler. His name was a terror, for no College has scored more than 100 against him and very seldom more than 80. With regard to all round excellence, there is scarcely any one who can approach Neksatkhan. A brilliant bat, who can play all round the wicket, though somewhat lacking in vigour; a slow bowler, with a dual break and a head to vary pitch and pace and a smart field, who can work wonders in the slips. In fielding there are so many claimants for the supreme position that it would be hard to mention all and inglorious to mention some. Suffice it to say, that we had a great many, who did well at one time or another.

Thus far we had a brilliant record of shield matches and for it the College is thankful not only to the principals, professors and the players but to a great extent to its past students. The past students, by their great efforts to coach the raw cricketers from the schools, have shown, that in acquiring the grains of sporting knowledge, they have not held the wheat as the Egyptian mummies did for ages without allowing it to grow.

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But they have embedded it in fertile soil and have allowed the young aspirants of the game to make the most use of it. The past students have for a long time supplied the much desired want of coaches, without whom it would be hard to expect much material progress in the game. Nowadays, one regrets to note their entire absence from the cricket field.

Since 1908, we had a series of defeats year after year and with the exception of the year 1909, we scarcely survived the first round. The performance of the players afforded food for disappointment not only to themselves, but also to the Principal and the professors, who are so keen on the sporting life of the College and go a great deal out of their way to do anything, which might tend to cultivate their talents and interest. But unfortunately the College has relapsed and failed to make its mark in shield matches,in spite of the possession of such brilliant players as Chothia, Kapadia and Pulwanker. But we think the loss of our beautiful ground has a great bearing on our defeats, sustained during the later years. One cannot but feel deeply for the loss, especially when he sees acres of land being added to other colleges and additional facilities provided to them for encouraging their sporting culture. Huge buildings have sprung like mushrooms on the field, where the College reared so many mighty men and faught and won so many battles. How in days gone by, the Elphs. past and present gathered together on its velvet green, which was the centre of College life and activity. The love of the ground burns with increased fervour, as gazying round, one recalls the various incidents and mighty feats of our great Elphs· What a banquet of memory could be obtained ! Here it was that the College nursed and reared its Mullas, Modies, Karakas, Telangs, Chothias and Kapadias ; here it was that the great dinner of the Elphs. was held in 1901, when the ground groaned under the weight of our illustrious giants of the early age ; here it was that the lady students stepped delicately and added lustre to the social and sporting life of the College; here it was that our old Jessop, R. Mody sent his rattling hit,

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which went as far as the Wellington Fount ; here it was that an officer of the Magadella team skied a hit, which went soaring right over the College ; here it was that the well known Hindoo player Chonker hit a ball on the off, which flew past the window of Prof. Muller's room ; here it was that Mulla made his Herculean shot, which lodged on the balcony of the Y. W. C. A. building ; here it was that Jeh. Antia smashed the tile over the Principal's room, which has not yet been replaced to preserve its memory. The ground is gone but the glorious tradition remains. It was rather unkind of the Government to remove from the Elphs. its revered and time honoured association and to drive them away from the ground where the grass had yielded to the steps of generation of illustrious men and over which they had obtained a lien, by long timed usage. It is only to be regretted that the present generation of students displayed the silence of a typical dummy and failed adequately to represent the matter to the Government. Since the Government was pleased to give us the ground and since the Government is pleased to take it away, for imperial purposes as remarked by H. E. Lord Sydenham, we shall simply say *Jo Hookum* to their superior wishes and pass over the matter without commenting on it.

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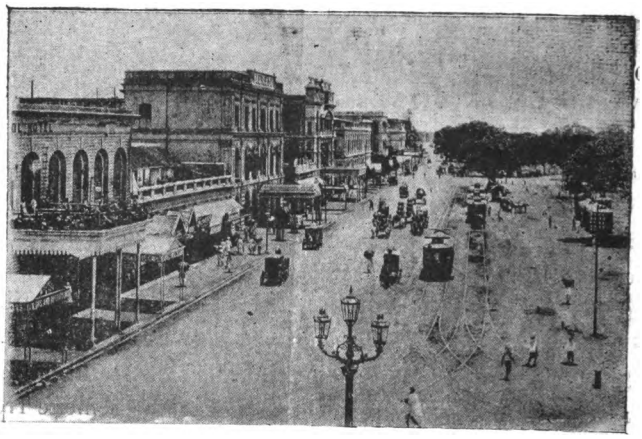

The Chowringee Road, Calcutta

CHAPTER II.

The North East Tour.

1901.

Period 36 days. Miles 3,280.

TEAM.

Mr. S. F. Mulla. (Capt.)	Mr. K. K. Ashburner.
„ K. K. Kharas.	„ H. D. Gimi.
„ P. H. Vakil.	„ N. N. Vakil.
„ M. R. Parekh.	„ G. Pearson.
„ J. D. Mody.	„ B. F. Mehta.
„ R. D. Kanga.	„ M. K. Neksatkhan.
„ K. A. Kooka.	„ B. K. Dadachanji. (Hony. Sec. and Treasr.)

Nearly twelve years have elapsed since the event of the first tour and in the absence of score sheets and suitable records, the task of compiling an account is one, that would be perhaps approached with some misgiving and hesitation by a member, who himself was absent from the tour. The writer has however

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relied on the details supplied to him by the tour secretary Mr. Dadachanji and trusts that he has not done any injustice to the events, that happened or the players, who took part in this tour.

The Elphinstone College has been a great pioneer in the work of the advancement of College games and has led the way towards the acquirement of skill in the various branches of sports, which the British brought with them to India, along with good laws and peace. Both in cricket and hockey, we have been the first to form the advancing line and though in the race for the struggle of supremacy, we have at times been out stripped by our sister colleges, still in point of touring we are unapproached, not only by the Indian colleges but even by the various sporting institutions of India.

The idea of cricket tours through India seemed to have occurred to us simultaneously with the institution of the Northcote Shield. In fact, it was started and discussed on the evening of one of the shield matches—a glorious evening in 1901, when we had practically decided the fate of the Shield by defeating our old rivals, the Grant Medical College. The suggestion originally emanated from R. Kanga; and relying on the enterprising spirit, which lurks in every Elph. heart and on the strong combination, which we had then, the guardians of our cricket were induced to consider the matter. The idea seemed also to find favour with the members of the College staff, and this more than anything else instilled the promoters to take up the matter seriously. S. Mulla with his organising genius was again to the fore and gave the scheme his best of energy and attention. Without any previous experience of the College tour, the new undertaking taxed his ability heavily, though in his arduous task, he had the advantage of the aid and counsel of Prof. Covernton and Mr. Dadachanji.

In the floating of any undertaking a forceful impetus is a *sine qua non* to set it going at full sail and the much welcomed

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impetus came from no less a personage than Ag. Principal W. H. Sharp, the most witty in the ranks of our principals. He was not slow to recognise the merits of the scheme, which apart from giving a few days' holidays to the students, proved a wonderful enlightener of the eyes and mind and a great means to increasing the *entente cordiale* amongst the students of various communities. The scheme received his whole-hearted support and unstinted energy and no better idea could be gathered about his keeness and personal interest in mapping out the tour than from the fact that he himself drafted out all the letters to open negotiations for the arrangement of fixtures with the various teams in Northern India. It would be hard to estimate the intrinsic worth of all that Honorable Mr. W. H. Sharp did for the College and its sports, in his various capacities as professor, principal and director. At least the tourists owe him a great debt of gratitude and his name will always be cherished by them as the first patron, who watered the little sapling, which has since flourished and grown into a sturdy tree to extend its ramifications to the most distant parts of India.

The first programme though on an extensive scale, was not at all an ambitious one. In fact the card was perhaps the weakest we ever had on tour; the fixtures, through our overrating the standard of cricket in Northern India, being arranged against colleges and second class clubs only. Throughout the tour, the contests were onesided and pronounced victories were more in evidence than doubtful or exciting finishes. With the exception of Bharatpur, the teams, we met, were not formidable.

From the start, there has been no committee for the selection of the tour teams; the task of choosing the members being happily left in the hands of the captain and secretary—a procedure, which has worked very satisfactorily and which is in vogue till this day. The first tour team was splendid, well armed at all points. It had no tail in batting, and possessed a variety of bowlers, though not great ones, who had excellent support from fielders.

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S. F. Mulla

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The leadership as a matter of course devolved on S. Mulla. He was the moving spirit of the tour and organised it with consummate tact and skill and laid out the lines, on which it was to work. He was certainly the greatest in the ranks of Elph. captains and developed our cricket to the highest pitch of excellence both off and on the field. His able administration both at home and on field and his sympathetic care for the health and comfort of the members, contributed in a marked manner to the triumph of the first tour. He was as good a soldier as he was a captain and did excellent service with the bat and especially as 'a man behind the sticks.' But his name will be remembered in connection with the useful work that he has done in getting up both the college gymkhana and tour. In his endeavours to raise college cricket to a higher plane of efficiency, he has shown conspicuous organising ability, zeal, energy and devotion to his work. It is superfluous to offer a panegyric on the excellence of his work as an organiser and captain. The firm and successful basis, on which the gymkhana and the tour have been placed by him and the popularity combined with fraternal love and regard, which he has enjoyed amongst the Elphs., are enough tribute to him and his work. When he retired from taking active interest in the tour, he was very fitly presented with a gold watch, surely not as a compensation for all that he had done for the gymkhana and the tour, but as an appreciation of his work, and as a token of esteem and respect in which was held by the Elphs. past and present.

On the night of the 3rd Dec. we left Colaba for Delhi, which was to be the scene of our first action on tour. Next morning at Ahmedabad, we transhipped to the R. M. Ry. and for full thirtysix hours, steamed through the trackless desert of Rajputana with its sandy soil and dry beds of river. Our panting little engine broke the deadly silence with its steady and systematic throbs, for there was no sign of life in the major portion of the desert. All throughout the journey was dull and dreary and it was therefore with no small amount of delight that we greeted the end of it, when on the evening of the 5th, we arrived at Delhi.

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The first match of the tour came off on the 6th against the St. Stephens College ; it was neither feverishly exciting nor noted for any good performance. The ground was located near the Kashmir Gate and had no suitable level or turf, while a few chairs and benches supplied the modest want of a pavilion. The game from the start was onesided. In their first innings there was nothing worth calling a stand; Davisingh being the only one to enter double figures. Their bowling shared the weakness of their batting and failed to create an impression on our players, who were in perfect trim and training. Both Ashburner and Gimi played well for their scores, in which they were assisted by the Delhi wicket-keeper, who seemed to regard stumping as no part of his duty. In the second innings the home team again went down with a sickening crash and scored only 53. The team was undoubtedly weak from our point of view, though it was considered a good eleven at Delhi. The fact is that cricket at Delhi was then in its infancy and very few played or took much interest in it. A very amusing story is told of a Delhi player, who grew excited at receiving a break ball, which he regarded as a *dagalbazi* (fraud) to cheat the batsman and refused to go out. Further comments on cricket of those days are perhaps unnecessary. We won by an innings and 53 runs.

St. Stephens College : 1st innings 48 ; Devising 17. 2nd innings. 53 Samas 20.

Elph. College : 1st innings 154 ; Ashburner 22 ; Gimi 42 ; Mody 23 ; Parakh 18.

During the 'off' day, we visited the various places of historic fame, with which Delhi is so fully studded. Judging from its monuments, its grand gates, its fort and its ruins, Delhi must have had a great and glorious past during the Mogal regime. But with all its former greatness the citizens of the gay city of Bombay, found the place dull and bereft of gaiety and pleasure. It was the old Delhi, as it existed before the

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first Durbar of 1903, gloomy and sulky, as if moping over its fallen greatness. But if Delhi can boast of its former greatness, its traditional forts and monuments and its great Ry. junction, it can no less boast of some of the sharpest, most loquacious and breezy old rascals imagiable on earth. To have an experience of them, which some of us remember bitterly, a visit to the bazar is all that is necessary; and woe betide a foreigner, who goes to them ignorant of their fame, for he is sure to be roped into a preposterous bargain.

Leaving Delhi on the 8th, we arrived at Allahabad on the afternoon of the 9th and were lodged in a spacious bungalow attached to the Muir College. The cricket ground close by the College premisses, was delightfully carpeted with a soft verdure. But the pitch itself did not play as true at it promised and soon wore out to trouble the batsmen with its various nasty tricks. Long before the commencement of the match, the ground was studded with spectators, who had come to witness the issue of the great match. The Muir College was reputed to be one of the strongest teams in the Allahabad University. But they suffered by comparison and failed to make an effective resistence against our bowlers. They scored only 47.

The lunch was the most noteable feature of the match, served in *swedeshi* style with county sweetmeats and soda; a tragic combination indeed for cricketers. In a dyspeptic condition, we opened our innings, but the bowling of Bhadur proved as annoying as the food inside the stomach. The bowler seemed for a time difficult to manage and his low and distant pitching kept us on the *qui veve*. Gimi was the only player, who played with confidence and came out with a timely and well-merited 41. Our second highest score was 10 by Mulla. In their second innings Abdul Haq and Shepherd played pluckily and signalled 70 for 4. Though they ran up a pretty decent score, we kept our grip over the game. The other batsmen failed to live up to the start and added only 21 more to the score. We brushed off the necessary runs and won the match with 8 wickets to spare.

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Muir Central College : 1st innings 46 ; Bhadur 17. 2nd innings 91 ; Abdul Haq 26 ; Shepherd 15.

Elph. College: 1st innings 107 ; Gimi 41 ; Mulla 10. 2nd innings 34 (2 wkts).

A tennis match, in which we easily came off victorious concluded the proceedings of the day.

On the ensuing day (12th), we took a hasty promenade round the city in the jolting '*ekkas*'. There are some good parks at Allahabad ; but the chief place of interest is the Fort, which contains a stone pillar some 30 feet high, erected by the Buddhist King Asoka about the year 240 B. C. From the parapets of this Fort a most delightful vision can be obtained. At the foot of it, the river Jumna take its peaceful course ; on the right is the huge Ry. bridge, while on the left, the confluence of the two holy rivers, Ganges and Jumna, with their teeming pilgrims, affords a sight, which cannot fail to create an impression on the mind above the religious fervour of those enthusiastic devotees.

Queen's Statue, Allahabad.

On the morning of the 13th, we left Allahabad. We were given a hearty 'send off' by the Muir College students, the majority of whom came to see us at the station. After a few hours journey, we transhipped at Mogal Serai for the O. & R. Ry. train, bound for Benares. The platform was full of pilgrims apparently booked for Kasi. The pandemonium was too awful for words. It took all one's time to avoid being jostled and elbowed by those enthusiastic sinners, with their naked skin smeared with ashes and paints, to which not all the waters of the 'Holy Gunga' or even

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Neptune's ocean could impart a look of cleanliness. Shortly, we neared the bridge spanning the river Ganges, a very convenient spot, from which to admire the sacred city. The river here forms a crescent shaped bay, thus permitting the eye to take in at a single sweep the sight of the long line of picturesque *ghats* and magnificent temples. Before dusk we reached Benares, the holy city of the Hindoos, the home of a thousand temples and the resort of millions of pilgrims every year. We were perhaps the only company of travellers that alighted at the sacred city for such a mundane and modern purpose as cricket. And really cricket did appear curiously out of place amidst the hoary surroundings. The discussion of L. B. W. and the shouts of 'Hows that' did indeed sound queer within the hearing of the bells of a hundred ancient temples, in the close vicinity of old world *Yates* and *Sanyasis* and *Acharyas*, construing and expounding the *Vedas* and *Puranas* and amidst fierce devotees distorting their bodies in self mortification. It was no wonder therefore, that we were stared with some amount of curiosity by the crowd at the station. The silent welcome that we received on arriving at the station was gratifying enough to make us remember the moments with some pride. Quite a huge crowd arrayed the platform in several files, eager and impatient to have a look at us. On arriving at the Queen's College, we were given a hearty welcome by Principal Vincient and the Secretary of the College.

On Saturday the 14th, we played the Queen's College on their ground, which by the way was far from being good. There was an absolute absence of turf and the surface was rugged and any thing but consolidated. The home team won the toss and for reasons best known to themselves, sent us in to bat. Our opponents were getting the worse of the game and broke out into a sharp attack of 'appeal fever.' In bowling they were fairly well off but their fielding especially their strategic arrangement of the respective places was very deficient and left much room for improvement. Kharas came off brilliantly and played an unblemished innings of 52. The opponents had a weak batting side and before the close of the day, 7 wickets fell for 50.

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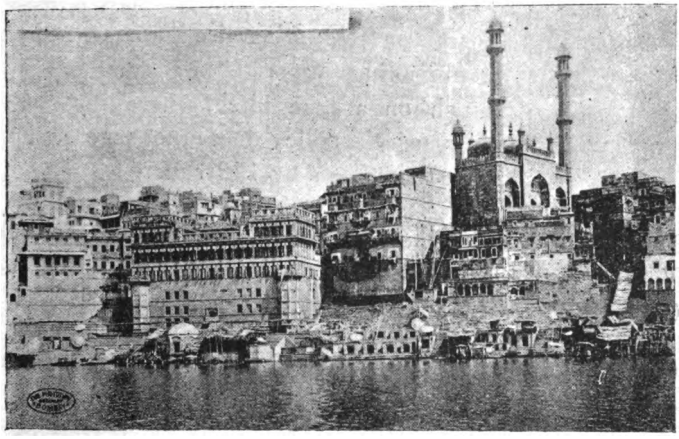
In the evening Principal Vincient was "At Home" to the team and several leading citizens of Benares; while the military band which had been in attendance since the early part of the evening, entertained the guests with its delightful tunes. The ensuing day being a Sunday, the match was held over till Monday.



Scene from the River, Benares

On Sunday morning, we crossed the Ganges to Ramnagar, the country palace of H. H. the Raja of Benares. While awaiting the boats, our Captain performed the daring feat of taking a cobra by the neck and a scorpion by the tail. But unfortunately for his courage, he shook in his shoes; though like a clever lawyer, he attributed the result to the morning chill. Though very little could be seen of the city itself, a grand panoramic view met our eyes when crossing the river. The sight all along the river was highly picturesque, though it was rendered somewhat uninviting by the hideous floating corpses, that met our eyes at times.

On Monday we continued the match. Their tail end only added 13 more. We had another go and at 98 closure was applied. The Queen's College in the 2nd innings failed to realise even 40. Our bowlers had very startling figures, especially Pearson,

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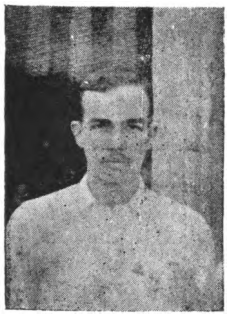
who having found the ground to his liking bowled exceedingly well. He was the best bowler next to Kharas, the College had at that period. He is a bowler of great pace and his principal bowling virtue is the height, which his balls take after leaving the pitch. He has some amount of 'devil', which primarily accounts for his success; otherwise he makes no pretex at breaking from either side and is not much on a true pitch, where his 'pace at any price' policy does not succeed. We won the match by 152 runs.



G. Pearson

Elph. College ; 1st innings 156 ; Kharas 52 ; Ashburner 32 ; Vakil 21 ; Neksatkhan 17. 2nd innings 98 ; Ashburner 28 ; Gimi 20 ; N. Vakil 11 (not out).

Queen's College ; 1st innings 63 ; Pande 19 ; Hussein 13. 2nd innings 39.

It was a dull journey from Benares to Dhunbaid, the junction for Kasumbda, which was our next station of the tour. Several miles before reaching Dhunbaid, the ground on both sides of the line was bristled with small iron chimneys. The whole surroundings at the junction were weird and lifeless. On our arrival at Kasumbda, we were received by Messrs. Boga and Bamji, who accorded a very hospitable shelter in their commodious and delightful bungalow at the collieries.

As pre-arranged the team was booked for the mines the next day. The visit was interesting though not very comfortable. The 'galleys' were veritable labyrinths and anyone uninitiated might waste hours walking about in a circle, before reaching the mouth of the pit. Each 'galley' had a name. There were some, which were termed Darjeeling and Masoorie galleys, for they were so constructed as to remain cooler than the rest. Each of us

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took a piece of coal as a momento of our visit, but our Captain disliked this common place idea. He rolled himself in a heap of coal and thought of preserving his suit, which by the way had long since done good service.

25th December was the day of our memorable match with the Bengal coal miners, which provided the most amusing game of the tour. For the first time during our cricket experience, our Captain was called upon to aid in the unique task of hunting out a pitch. The task was both amusing and difficult for there was hardly a level plot answering the purpose of a match. The discussion as the various members offered their remarks for a particular choice was simply amusing and a jolly hour passed before a pitch was selected, rolled and creased.

We won the toss when it was least needed. Our Captain reverted the order and gave the game the colour of a picnic match. Though we took matters easily we could not do much against their bowling in which the ground played not an insignificant part. We scored only 120 to which Gimi going in late contributed 32 (not out). In the field we ran up against an umpire, who will always be held in humorous remembrance by our team, though we are still doubtful whether he had a sufficient sense of humour or merely a superficial knowledge of the laws of cricket. Whatever it might be, he was at least unique and original in his remarks. The miners took the 'leg' guard and departed leaving their 'off' stump a victim to Pearson. The umpire it seemed, found out the cause of their disaster. When the seventh man asked for the 'leg' guard, he cried out "That's your 'leg', but if you take my advice, take 'mid and off' and guard your 'off' stump." It was a nice bit of advice but he forgot to warn the player of his encroachment on the wicket. So when the yell of "How's that" went, the umpire said "Very sorry, you are out" The comedy was not yet complete. One miner was fortunate enough to hit a four and at the time the ball crossed the boundary, he happened to be at the bowler's end. Perplexed at

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this dilemma, he remained stolid within the crease and appealed "Mr. Umpire, can I go back to my original place". The umpire will all the gravity of a learned judge replied "Yes, in my opinion I think you are entitled to do so" And so the player tramped off to his place to the great amusement of our team. There are no other points worth mentioning so far as cricket is concerned. Suffice it to say, that they scored 16 and 81 and we won the pleasantest of pleasant matches by an innings and 23 runs

But if there was little of good cricket, there was plenty of good fellowship and our opponents entertained us most hospitably. We extracted a good deal of fun from the game, and admired a team that had the pluck to offer a sporting game with such scanty materials.

Elph. College : 1st innings 120 ; Gimi 34 (not out) ; N. Vakil 20;

Coal Miners : 1st innings 16 : 2nd innings 81.

The team had enjoyed a merry sojourn at the mines and it was with a feeling of deep regret that we bade farewell to our kind Parsee hosts and their hospitable roof, the like of which we had rarely come across on tour. A night's journey from Kasumbda brought as to Howrah. We were lodged at the Sibpore College hostels, which were in close vicinity to the river Hoogly with its busy plying steamers. The stay proved somewhat dull as we were cut off from the main city of Calcutta. Very few of us knew that there was a bridge connecting the suburbs with the main city and formed the impression that the ferries were perhaps tho only means of crossing the river.

We played the match on Friday the 27th, the day of our arrival. The Sibpore College was the strongest amongst the college teams that faced us during this tour. Lewty their captain, was the shining light of the team and was one of the best players

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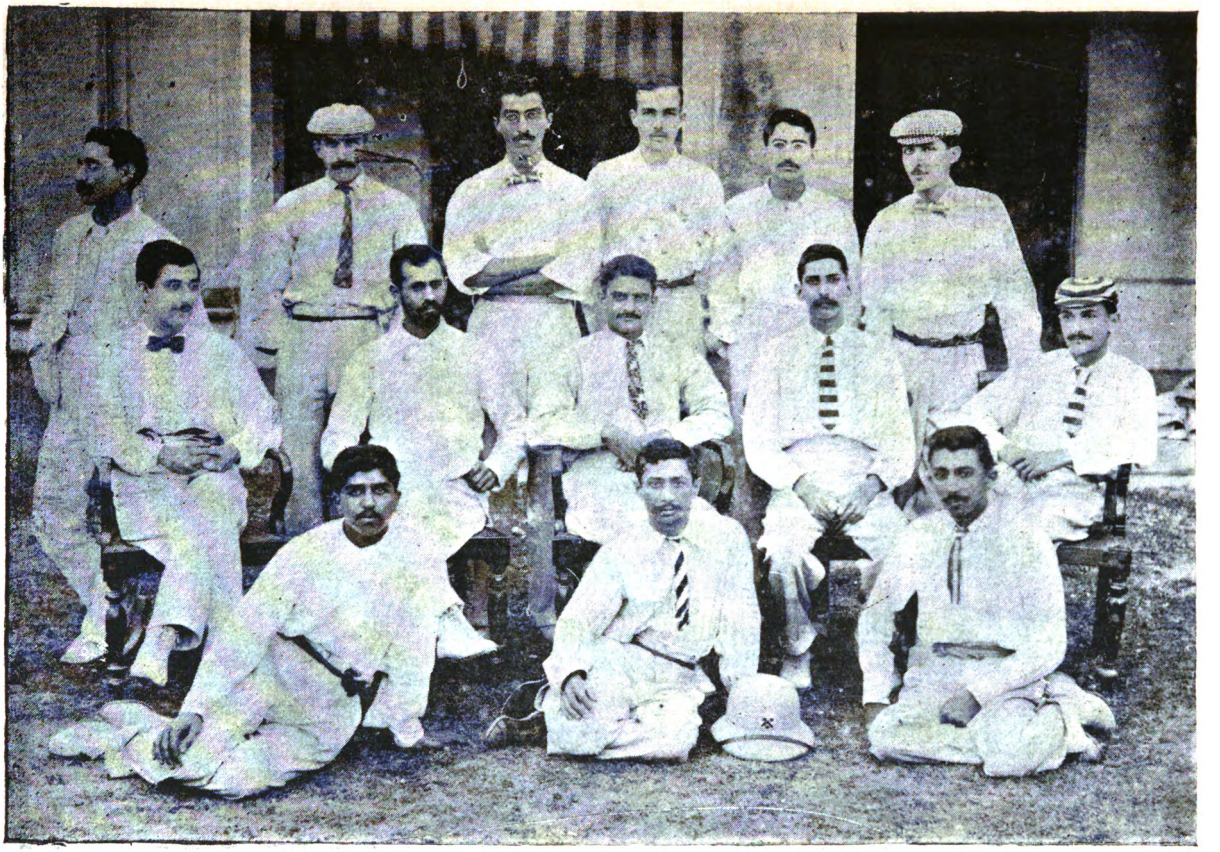
B. Dadachanji. R. Kanga. J. Mody. G. Pearson. M. Parekh. H. Gimi.



TEAM 1901.

K. Ashburner. K. Kharas. S. Mulla (Capt.) P. Vakil. M. Neksatkhan.
N. Vakil. K. Kooka. B. Mehta.

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that we came across in our encounters. In the first innings we did not find much difficulty in dislodging them, for none except Lewty and Nyss presented a solid front to Pearson and Kharas. We scored 244, the whole team contributing uniformly. But the field itself was very narrow and our hitters Mulla and Pearson made hay while the sun shone and put the ball out of the field more than once. In the second innings Lewty and Nyss again proved hard nuts to crack and played in perfect style. We had an anxious time over the result for in addition to these stubborn players, we had to fight our way against time. Kharas however rose to the occasion and with his effective leg breaks, prevented the match from ending in a futile draw. In spite of the brilliant contribution of Lewty, Sibpore scored only 120 and were beaten in a decisive fashion by an innings and 28 runs.

Sibpore College: 1st innings 96; Lewty 25; Nyss 26. 2nd innings 120; Lewty 49; Nyss 22.

Elph. College: 1st innings 244; Mulla 33; Pearson 30; Ashburner 29; Neksatkhan 15; N. Vakil 28; Gimi 24.

On the 22nd we shifted to Calcutta and were lodged at the Cosmopoliton Hotel, as the guests of the Howrah Sporting Club, against whom we were playing the next fixture. Hearing of our unbeaten record, the Club turned out a strong combination against us. But fortune favoured us from the start. We won the toss an all important thing on a true and hard pitch. The team as a whole played well; but the feature of our innings was the splendid performance of Kharas, who carried his bat for a capital 153 (not out), which was by far the best innings of the tour. He gave no chance and was attractive to watch, scoring freely all round with a variety of dazzling strokes. He made the bowling look simple with his vigorous drives and slashing third man strokes. He was during that year at the height of his form both with the bat and ball and ranked as one of the best all round men amongst the Parsees. It is only to be regretted that this

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player of rare merits should have doffed his pads and gloves so early, with so many years of usefulness before him.

In their first innings the home team shaped badly and scored a disappointing total of 41. But after being made to follow on they developed a certain amount of obstinacy, especially Dutt, who gave us some cause for anxiety as to the final result. At one stage it seemed they would play out time, but Kharas who was much in the lime light in this match, worked havoc with the tail enders, and the last wickets were taken at the cost of a few runs. We won by an ininings and 138 runs, the greatest victory in the annals of the tour.

Elph. College : 1st innings 293 ; Kharas 30 (N. O.); Naskatkhan 20 ; Ashburner 17 ; Vakil 15 ; Kuka 13; Mody 13 ; Parakh 13;

Howrah Sporting Club : 1st innings 41 ; 2nd innings 114, Dutt 42; Pal 16.

Of all the numerous messages, bearing the Christmas greetings to the team, there was none more welcome than the receipt of a telegram from Mrs. Mc. Millan, conveying her congradulations to the members of the team for their brilliant achievements during the progress of the tour. Mrs. Mc. Millan's interest in the general affairs of the Elhps. is too well known and to say that her keeness for the College games was as great as that of the most enthusiastic devotee of the gymkhana is to assert truism. During the time that Mr. Mc. Millan was the principal, her name was inseparably associated with the various sporting functions and social gaieties prevalent at the College. Her love and regard for her pupils were remarkable and it will be long before her many acts of kindnes to the students in general and cricketers in particular, are forgotton.

Our last match at Calcutta was against the Presidency College. But the home college suffered from the holiday season and were without four of their stalwarts, who failed to respond to tbe " call to arms." The match between the leading sister colleges of the

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Mrs. MacMillan

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East and West proved a tame one-sided affair; for the Elphs. continued their winning sequence. Our College had all the game to themselves and the 253 that sandwiched between their 41 and 31 can only be explained by the fact that we were head and shoulders above them in all departments. Gimi, who made 97, again proved his worth as a consistent player and never made a bad or unsafe stroke. We fielded well and the bowling of Kharas and Pearson proved too good for the Presidency, who were skittled out for 43 and 31. But since their best men were away, our bowling performance must not be overestimated. We won by an innings and 181 runs.

Presidency College: 1st innings 41; 2nd innings 31.

Elph. College: 1st innings 253; Gimi 97; Ashburner 36; Mulla 25; Parakh 22; N. Vakil 23.

We left Calcutta on the 30th December for Bharatpur, the scene of Lord Lake's exploits. On our way, we broke our journey at Agra for a few hours, to see the world renowned Taj, that masterpiece of archetecture. On the 2nd January 1902, we arrived at Bharatpur. We were received as state guests and were put up in a comfortable camp, which was pitched close by the field.

But our stay, which would otherwise have been pleasant and enjoyable, was marred by several unhappy events. The team suffered from a series of accident, which led to the decrease of its fighting units. Pearson left the team from Agra, as per-arranged; Kanga showed slow but perceptible signs of a bad illness; Kharas sprained his shoulder; while Ashburner contracted a serious attack of rheumatism and had to be removed to the state hospital in a critical condition. It may be here remarked that Ashburner had proved himself very useful on tour and though he did not score brilliantly, yet he did uniformly well throughout all the matches.

The match against the Bharatpur State eleven was the most exciting and interesting of all the games on the tour. The home team had given the match, the colour of a great

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state event and quite a handsome row of tents lined the skirts of the cricket field, which was well packed with spectators. This was our last match and after the unbroken spell of victories, it was very disappointing that we could not place our full strength on the field, which was all the more necessary, as the State had a formidable team, in fact the strongest we played on this tour. We won the toss and scored 142. None of our players did brilliantly except P. Vakil, who made the highest score of the side. The Bharatpurees were well up to the mark in batting and made a capital beginning in response to our score of 142. Before the close of the day they approached our score with five wickets to spare. The absence of Pearson and the inability of Kharas to bowl was keenly felt ; Kanga inspite of his fading health, bowled well and stood alone in his endeavours to get them out. Their innings realised 165.

With 77 for 6 wickets, defeat staied us in the face. But P. Vakil stepped in for the honour of the college and played a stubborn innings, the virtues of a straight bat being fully revealed. Kanga did what a sick man could and assisted his clubmates in playing out time. P. Vakil played capitally and gave a very sombre reflection of his past bright play. Considering his present style, the word 'bright' would be thought somewhat out of place. But during his early college days he was quite a stylish and vigorous bat ; but later on, his slavery to forward play and his undue adherence to book theory, spoilt his game and led to the elimination of his hard scoring strokes. The match was drawn.

Elph. College: 1st innings 142 ; Kanga 18 ; Kharas 21 ; Mody 15 ; P. Vakil 33 ; Parakh 13 ; Mehta 10. 2nd innings 150 ; Gimi 38 ; P. Vakil 48 ; Kanga 32 , Mulla 11.

Bharatpur State Club: 1st innings 165 ; Gafer 25; Gulamgilani 25.

With the undecisive match at Bharatpur, the programme sketched out by Mulla and Dadachanji was carried

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successfully to its completion. Everything went well except the unhappy episode of Ashburner's serious illness, which somewhat damped the high spirits of the party at the last stage of the tour. The first tour, though not very ambitious in the choice of the fixtures, was beyond doubt a complete success. All our players did uniformly well in all the departments of the game. But of all, Kharas deserves a special mention, for his excellent performance both with the bat and the ball. He very seldom failed and came off brilliantly when the side was in a tight corner. It was his great bowling feat which saved the games against Sibpore College and Howrah S. Club from ending in a futile draw and it was his brilliant innings of 151 (N.O.) which dazzled the Calcutta sportsmen with our cricket prowess. With all his brilliant cricket abilities, one cannot help deploring the loss of this player on future tours,

On the morning of the 7th January, we arrived at Bombay with a bag full of victories and an unbeaten certificate.

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Colombo Harbour

CHAPTER III.

The Southern Tour.

1904.

Period 29 days. Miles 2924.

TEAM.

Mr. P. H. Vakil. (Capt.)
„ M. R. Parekh.
„ R. D. Kanga.
„ J. D. Mody.
„ K. A. Kooka.
„ N. N. Vakil.
„ B. F. Mehta.
Mr. M. K. Neksatkhan.
„ H. D. Gimi.
„ H. F. Mulla.
„ D. N. Vakil.
„ F. S. Doctor.
„ J. D. Antia .
„ B. K. Dadachanji. (Hony. Sec. and Treasr.)

In spite of the success of the first venture, the idea to run up a regular annual tour, had not yet taken a hold on the minds of its promoters and full two years intervened before a second

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tour was organized to attack the southern fields. The tour had however successfully emerged from the chrysalis stage and this unabled us to screw up our courage to try conclusions with the leading teams of the South. Cricket at that period did not seem to be thriving in the South, but the places visited by us seemed to be the strongholds of the game. Throughout the major portion of our campaign, we had to contend against formidable opponents some of whom were quite up to the 'first class' mark.

But the secretary on this occasion, was beset with no easy task in the selection of the team, owing to the scarcity of players volunteering to undertake the tour. In the teeth of this fact, some of the malcontents of the College, unconcerned, uninterested in the tour, exclaimed after the team had left, that the selection was carried out in a hole and corner manner and that there was want of fair play in the choice of the members. The tour strife, which forms the most regrettable episode of its history took root from the selection of F. S. Doctor. Barring whatever qualifications that player had for claiming a place in the team and even ignoring his prospective performance, which fully justified his selection, unheralded and unadvertised, as argued by the opposition, his inclusion required no better justification than the simple but all sufficing reason that he was only picked up to fill up a vacant gap, when no other suitable player was forth coming and when every available source of supply was fully tapped. But those malcontents saw things though a coloured glass of prejudice and their jaundiced eyes, ever keen and watchful at detecting some flaw in the management of the tour, led them to perceive that the player was smuggled in at the last moment on grounds of kindred friendship. But with all his supposed demerits and his clandestine entry into the team, if the same player had been A. B. C. instead of F. S. D., the trouble would never have arisen ; the bare fact being that he was at variance with the knot of croakers. The team however departed in peace but the spark of fray was ignited to flash out in a blaze with extra fury during the ensuing tour and to carry its mouldering ashes though a series of years.

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On the night of the 8th Dec. we left Victoria Terminus with happy hearts, speculating on the sporting feats that we were perform during the thraldom of books, lecturers and examinations; for it may be remarked here that with the exception of Kooka and Doctor all the members had appeared at one or other of the University examinations. We travelled over M. & S. M. Ry; via Poona, Belgaum and Bangalore and were booked to reach Kolar on the night of the 11th after a slow and protracted journey of seventy two hours. The railway authorities in those days, were rather strict with regard to the grant of concession by mail to the cricket teams and consequently we had to do all the journey by slow passenger trains. Frequent transports, long halts at roadside stations, constant shunting into the side lines to make way for the privileged mail trains, dearth of suitable accommodation, lack of sleeping berths, want of proper time to partake of breakfasts and dinners, increased our travelling difficulties. On the night of the 11th we arrived at Oorgaum, where we were received by Mr. E. Maxwell Le Froy, the secretary of the Kolar Gold Fields C. Club.

We were disbanded and were lodged as guests with the families of European members of the club. Our experience with various families was most varied and amusing. The approach of dinner hour was an event, which engrossed us with deliberation and anxiety. We were without the dining suits and all the paraphernalia necessary for the eleborate observance of the dinner table. A peep through the half opened door, revealed the host and the ladies of the family, arraying the dining table in the best of dinner apparel. It was indeed an ordeal for us to effect our appearance like benighted travellers in our travelling and sporting coats. Excuses for absence from the table were soon manufactured. Some pretended indisposition others exertion. But our kiud host saw through all this and coming to know the cause of our predicament, made a merry joke of it and shook off the trammels of unnecessary form and ceremony by appearing in his cricket blazer.

On the 12th, we started the opening match of the tour and for the first time played the game on matting. Our experience of matting was very little; one of the players in his ignorance, expected

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Elph. College v Kolar Gold Fields C. C.

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the whole field to be covered over with matting and remarked that it must an expensive thing to play cricket under these circumstances. We lost the toss and took the field. Neksatkhan was in great fettle with the ball and made there early start wear a gloomy aspect. Had he kept it up, the Richard brothers, the chief protagonists in the Kolar score, would have failed to produce their biggish crop of runs. While D. Richards was slow and cautious, C. Richards was full of dash and brilliancy and the latter by his good all round cricket asserted himself to be the best man of the side. In bowling J. Antia emerged like a dark horse and started his bowling career with 5 for 40, a good performance especially when others failed.

The score of 153 made by Kolar was not awe-inspiring, looking to the fast nature of the pitch. But our novel experience of the matting pitch, added to the excellent bowling of Watters, who enacted various leg-break puzzles with his peculiar jerky style, brought a speedy termination to our innings and we had to 'follow on' after scoring 50.

Watters with his clumsy style was a disturbing element to our players. But Mulla adopted the right tactical manœuvre and beat the bowler out of his length. The College Jessop, for he had already made a name as a great hitter during his two years' career, made a very successful *debut* on tour and excited the interest of the lookers-on by hitting two splendid sixers. All the bowlers were treated alike, for when in a humour to hit, he does not flatter the bowlers in the least. He can punish the best of lengths and put the ball well out of the reach of the most distant fielders. He was regaling himself merrily with their bowling and had he not unfortunately got run out, we might have had a different tale to tell about the result. Neksatkhan's innings of 42 was good and resourceful and formed an excellent prelude to many bright ones to follow. But our prop and pillar in batting was J. Mody. He was in full glory during that period and was easily marked out on tour as a great aggressive bat, by his stroke-making ability, which could send the ball to the 'off' boundary in a trice, even through a good phalanx of fielders.

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The Kolar team knocked off the required 67 for an out right victory with the loss of 4 wickets.

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS C. CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
J. O'Donnell, b Neksat	1	b Vakil	3
V. Grundy, lbw Neksat	4	b Vakil	21
C. Richards, c Mulla, b Antia	22	not out	2
S. Richards, b Neksat	48	not out	2
S. Richards, b Antia	3		
J. Coseus, b Antia	12		
T. Clarke, c & b Antia	17	did not bat	
P. Smith, c Gimi, b Parekh	27		
W. Thomas, c Mulla, b Antia	4		
D. Watters, not out	8	c Gimi, b Vakil	34
C. Breadon, b Parekh	1	run out	1
Extras	6	Extras	5
Total ...	153	Total (4 wkts.)	68

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Neksatkhan	... 17	0	71	3	4	0	23	0
Vakil ...	... 6	0	17	0	5	1	14	3
Antia ...	...16	0	40	5	2	0	15	0
Kooka ...	.. 2	0	12	0	...	...	...	...
Parekh ...	... 3	0	7	2	4	1	11	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
N. Vakil, b Watters	0	b Richards	19
M. Parekh, b Watters	8	c Richards, b Grundy ...	13
H. Gimi, c Smith, b Richards	9	b Richards	13
J. Mody, b Grundy	12	c Watters, b Grundy ...	34
M. Neksatkhan, c Smith, b Richards ..	0	b Watters	42
H. Mulla, b Watters	2	run out	34
P. Vakil, c Richards, b Watters ...	1	run out	2
B. Mehta, c Smith, b Watters... ...	4	c & b Watters	2
J. Antia, st. b Watters	1	b Watters	2
D. Vakil, run out	6	st. Watters...	5
M. Kooka, not out	0	not out	0
Extras	7	Extras	4
Total	50	Total	170

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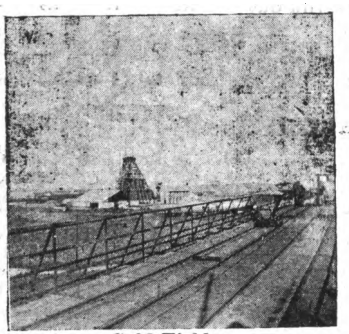
BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W
Watters ...	...13	1	23	6	18	1	80	4
C. Richards	... 3	1	16	2	24	5	49	2
Grundy ...	... 4	2	4	1	12	3	29	2
Thomas ...	... ...	...	...	...	1	0	8	0

We wound up the day with a tennis match, in which we had the upper hand.

Next to the match, the chief feature of our stay at Kolar was the visit to the gold mines. Before the colony was instituted the district of Kolar was 'no man's land'; but ever since the discovery of its hidden treasures, the outlook has been completely changed.



Gold Fields

To visit the mines is to leave India for a spell, as the busy environments with all the products of industrial science, give an idea of a mining city of the West. The metal is scattered in the form of fine powder in very hard quartz, dug out in huge quantity from the extensive reefs. But the process of elimination is very elaborate and expensive and requires much metalurgical skill. The quartz is first crushed and the worst part of the visit is to hear the busy and deafening roar of the ever-working batteries as the stamps powder the selected quartz. Every instruction and order is conveyed in mute signs, for the noise is so infernal that even the roaring of a cannon would pale into insignificance. The pulverised quartz rendered viscous by water and other chemicals, is made to flow over an amalgamated gold surface, to which the gold filings cling. After a sufficient quantity has been collected, it is scraped off and sent to the laboratory, where mercury is eliminated from it. In spite of the most expensive plants and appliances, the final stage to which gold can be reduced, is a kind of crude copper ingot; the final refining process being carried out in

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England. The waste tailings as the residue of the exhausted quartz, is called, are collected in enormous rubbish heaps and form a regular chain of powdered hillocks, high and large enough to attract the attention of a distant observer.

On the evening of the 14th, we left Kolar with happy memories, amongst which the hospitality of Richard's family will find a prominent place. "Walk a hundred miles of the country and you won't come across people to compare with the Richards" was ths remark of one of their members and our experience bore evidence to its truth. Arriving at Bangalore on the ensuing morning, we were lodged at the West End Hotel as the guests of Captain R. A. Standage, against whose team we had arranged the match. We started the match on the day of our arrival. The opposing team was a well picked eleven and represented the best cricket talent of that province, having such first class players as Jairam, Standage, Richards, Tate and Watters. The home team had the first knock. Jairam played a chanceless innings for 73. He was a little shaky at the start but did not take long to settle down to send the ball careering to the boundary in all directions. His innings was versatile and sound but somewhat lacking in grace and brilliancy. One of his drawbacks was his tendency at times to play unnecessarily forward and this was perhaps the reason why he found Neksatkhan the most difficult to manage. The *forte* of our crack bowler is his slow but well pitched leg break, which did not suit Jairam style of playing. He was the only bowler off whom Jairam could not score much.

Neksatkhan continued to do great things and though he fell off somewhat in bowling, he continued to rise higher and higher in the run-getting department. Doubtless his performance during this tour formed the high water mark of his successful cricket career ; for after it he fell off as rapidly as he rose and fell too, not to rise again. Gimi remained true to his reputation as a consistent player and shaped modestly on this tour, keeping his bright and brilliant innings in store for future years.

In the 2nd innings our bowlers bowled for all they were worth. Neksatkhan was however not on the spot and continued

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to pour his torrent of bad length. Yet strange to say Jairam felt uneasy against him and in an evil moment stepped forward to receive his slow leg break. That excellent ball, the only good one delivered by him during the innings, went over the shoulder of the bat and hit his stumps. Though Neksatkhan performed the mission of dismissing the most dangerous batsman, yet it was D. Vakil's performance that carried the bowling honours of the day. Vakil is a good fast bowler, but a little moderation of pace and an infusion of judgement and variation might help him to render his bowling quite formidable; he is however very nervous and soon loses his confidence, when assaulted by a hitter.

With 88 to score on a true batting pitch and with a brilliant batting train of Mulla, Mody, Gimi and Neksatkhan, a victory for us seemed quite on the cards. Mody and Gimi were having their own way with the bowling and victory was in sight, when the ill fated run, which Mody tried to steal changed the affairs. Three more wickets fell without any substantial addition to the total. Even with 70-6-36 and only 20 minutes to time, a defeat for our side was the least to be expected. But the college slumped horribly. The race is not always to the swift ; some other elements besides skill are necessary for victory. Our collapse was not due to any good bowling feat but to the operation of the moral factor, whose strength developed from wicket to wicket. The crisis shook our nerves ; some lost their coolness and self-possession so indispensable on such an occasion, while others became neurotically anxious and in their excitement to score the small number of runs, ran themselves ridiculously out. But the sorry plight of D. Vakil, our last bat, was a typical picture of what a nervous man could be on such an occasion. In his dreadful state of nervous alarm, he had put on pads up-side down and he looked morally bowled, as he was reeling and tumbling led out of the pavilion. The ball flew fast and straight and before he could lower his bat, the centre stump was unhooked, cartwheeling twice before coming to rest. We lost the match by a lamentable margin of 6 runs. Such are the varying fortunes of the game and the moral it conveys to its votaries, needs no further amplifica-

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tion at our hands. We were crestfallen at the turn the affairs had taken, for the victory, which at one stage actually stared us in the face would have been one of the brightest, as the opponents were the pick of South India talent.

CAPT. STANDAGE XI.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
J. B. Barstow, b Vakil	0	b Antia	54
C. L. Rolland, c Parekh, b Vakil	8	lbw Vakil	1
B. Jairam, s Mulla, b Neksat	73	b Neksat	10
J. G. Tait, c Gimi, b Neksat	0	b Vakil	16
C. H. Richards, c Antia, b Vakil	2	b Vakil	2
R. A. Standage, lbw Vakil	11	c N. Vakil, b Vakil	15
R. T. Ridpath, b Antia	31	c Neksat	6
J. M. Parker, lbw Neksat	10	c Mulla, b Vakil	0
D. S. Watters, c N. Vakil, b Parekh	1	b Vakil	0
P. Leonard, c & b Neksat	3	b Vakil	0
K. Ratnam, not out	3	not out	4
Extras	12	Extras	3
Total	154	Total	111

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. Neksat	12	2	39	4	18	3	58	2
D. Vakil	13	2	38	4	18	3	38	7
J. Antia	10	0	35	1	4	1	3	1
M. Parekh	9	0	30	1	3	0	9	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
N. Vakil, b Leonard	11	b Leonard	1
M. Parekh, c Leonard, b Watters	6	lbw Watters	1
H. Mulla, c Leonard, b Watters	18	b Leonard	1
J. Mody, c Watters, b Ratnam	13	run out	36
M. Neksatkhan, c Tait, b Watters	41	b Leonard	5
H. Gimi, c Tait, b Watters	43	c & b Leonard	20
P. Vakil, b Leonard	3	run out	2
R. Kanga, not out	4	run out	8
J. Antia, lbw Watters	18	b Rutnam	3
D. Vakil, b Ratnam	10	b Rutnam	0
K. Kooka, run out	0	not out	1
Extras	10	Extras	6
Total	177	Total	84

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
D. Watters	...20	5	67	5	5	0	20	1
P. Leonard	...21	5	45	2	13	3	32	4
K. Ratnam	... 9	1	28	2	10	5	15	2
C. Richards	... 5	0	27	0	3	0	11	0

Bowing low to the somewhat stern and uncompromising programme, we left Bangalore on the day of the termination of the match, not a whit more enlightened about the place and its historic environments. Arriving at Mysore on the morning of the 17th, we were lodged at the Gordon Hotel as the guests of the Mysore State. The Mysore College was busy mustering up her forces, but as their resources were rather limited, the team that confronted us was weak in contrast with the two formidable ones at Kolar and Bangalore. But with all their modest abilities they put up a creditable total of 140 runs; Ram Rao, a well-built athlete was singularly successful with his powerful hitting and took a heavy toll of our bowling.

Our team continued to suffer from the unsporting desease 'run out' and despite the seven cases we had in the two previous matches, no attempt was made to check its progress and two more fell victim to it. When things were moving rather badly for our side, Neksatkhan, who had fairly collared the bowling, ran himself out through bad judgement; an incident out of place in good cricket. It was however left to Mulla and Parekh to pile up the score. The former followed his natural bent and made some gigantic strokes. His hitting was as dangerous as daring and very much excited the interest of the local spectators; Parekh played a useful and commendable innings, but is a type of a player, who fails to appeal to a casual observer. But in his slender body there are some sparks of good cricket, which flash out under favourable conditions. He is a left-hander and like players of his class has a sound leg-stroke, which he executes to a nicety. But unfortunately there is too much of nervousness in his composition, which prevents him from coming off on a bad ground or against fast bowling.

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M. Neksat. J. Antia. B. Dadachanji. N. Vakil. R. Kanga. H. Mulla. K. Kooka.

THE TOUR TEAM 1904.

B. Mehta. H. Gimi. M. Parekh. P. Vakil. (Capt.) J. Mody. F. Doctor. N. Vakil.

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It was a three-day match and we had played for the major portion of the second day. Our programme was so conjested and unyielding that unless we finished off the match on the second day, we had to go without seeing Seringapatum, the old capital of Mysore; for in no case was it possible to devote an extra day beyond the three allotted for Mysore. But the strong desire to see the capital of Tippu Sultan was enough to set us on our mettle and to spur us on to greater efforts. Never have the Elphs. deported themselves more creditably on the field than on this occasion. Every ball was delivered with care and judgement and every catch, which good fielding could convert was accepted. The catches made by Doctor and Antia were a little short of miracles; especially that of the latter was a grand conversion of an 'impossible' into a 'certain.' We won the match by an innings and 3 runs, just before the stroke of time.

MAHARAJA COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Abdul Kadir, c P. Vakil, b Neksat ..	1	c Doctor, b Neksat ...	14
A. Subarajurs, b Antia	13	c Antia, b Neksat	0
B. Subraya, b Vakil	2	c Mulla, b Antia	0
J. Asuram, b Vakil	0	st Mulla, b Antia	29
M. Gopalraj, c P. Vakil, b Antia ..	5	c Mulla, b Antia	4
K. Shesh Iyangar, b Antia	21	c Neksat, b Antia	1
B. Ram Rao, c Mulla, b Antia... ...	11	c P. Vakil, b Antia	1
B. Sidraj, b Antia	13	c P. Vakil, b Neksat ...	0
M. Ram Rao, b Neksat	40	not out	5
Krishna Murti, not out	21	b Vakil	1
M. Madhaupa, st. Mulla, b Neksat ...	0	lbw Neksat	15
Extras ...	13	Extras ...	10
Total ...	140	Total ...	80

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. Neksatkhan	..13	1	37	3	16	0	39	5
D. Vakil ...	..17	3	38	2	4	0	15	1
J. Antia ..	..17	5	33	5	12	2	16	4
M. Parekh	... 5	0	19	0	..	...	...	...

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ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

P. Vakil, lbw Asuram	...	0
M. Neksatkhan, run out ...	...	35
J. Mody, c Sidraj, b Ram Rao ...	...	19
H. Gimi, b Ram Rao	...	5
M. Parekh, st Ram Rao	...	49
H. Mulla, c Sidraj, b Ram Rao ...	...	50
N. Vakil, c Subraya, b Ram Rao	...	0
B. Mehta, c Asuram, b Ram Rao	...	1
J. Antia, b Ram Rao ...	..	16
F. Doctor, run out ...	...	14
D. Vakil, not out ...	.	9
Extras ...	...	25
Total	...	223

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Asuram	5	0	23	1
Gopalraj	5	0	39	0
Ram Rao	30	3	86	7
Subarajuss	3	0	12	0
K. Iyanger	9	0	29	1
Madhaupa	7	0	9	1

On the morning of the 19th, we left for Seringapatum, the capital of Tippu Sultan, who played a short but exciting part in the history of Southern India. The stationmaster of the place served us as a guide and supplied us his accounts of the ruins, tinged not a little with exaggeration and romance. The visit was carried in funeral gloom quite in keeping with the sadness of the scene surrounding us; for Seringaputam of to-day is not even the shadow of its former self—a maimed skeleton stripped of its glamour and glory, serving only as a signmark of its former greatness. Silence and gloom reigned supreme where once the air resounded with the clash of arms and the roaring of the guns. The walls of the Fort, one of the most formidable in India, have crumbled but at some places the gates remain, mute evidences of bitter days and hard-faught struggles, of starved surrenders and heroic defences. Of the proud capital nothing remains except the Mosque and the Tippu's toy palace, which the Sultan loved so well. The rest of the city is one heap of ruins, serving as a study to historians and archealogists.

From Mysore to Tuticorin, the port of our embarkation for Colombo, was another long and incovenient journey of well nigh forty-eight hours; the team changing at Bangalore, Arkonam and

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Chinglepat. On our arrival at Tuticorin, we were sorry to miss the mail boat for Colombo and perforce had to pass full twenty four uncomfortable hours at a place, devoid of a single decent rest-house. The hotel, where we put up could be called so by the greatest stretch of courtesy, for it did not boast of any convenience, with which we associate the name. Here we reconciled ourselves to passing a rural and primitive type of life, living on the simplest fare and going out for a bath at the open well about half a mile from the hotel. Round the well were buried half a dozen tubs, in which the Elphs. enjoyed the luxury of the bath, philosophising like so many Diogenes, on the ups and downs of life, illustrating their philosophic theories by their own experience and comparing the ease and comfort they enjoyed at the luxurious hotel at Mysore with that available at that miserable place.

Breakwater, Ceylon

Upto the last moment that we actually embarked from Tuticorin, our crossing the channel for Colombo was an uncertain event. The medical officer in charge of the port insisted on quarantining the team, coming from Mysore, then regarded as an infected district. However our Parsee friends at Colombo worked their

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influence and induced the medical officer to forego the procedure in our case. On the evening of the 23rd, we boarded the S. S. 'Cotoria' and sailed for *Lunka*.

Our nautical trip provided the worst experience of the tour. The sea was simply boisterious and tossed our little boat about like a cork. The boat going at full steam pitched on the surging billows to a most uncomfortable extent. The painful sensation was two awful to be forgotten. The whole team passed an uncomfortable and sleepless night. Towards the approach of morning, the fury of the sea abated a little and amidst the haze of the mist, which was gradually dispelled by the glorious rays of the rising sun, we sighted land and the breakwater, perhaps the largest in the world. After we passed the breakwater, the sea became as calm as a lake.

At the pier, we were received by Mr. F. Dadabhoy and some of the members of the Singalese Sports Club, against whom we were playing the match at Colombo. Practically the whole team was quite done up by the short but nasty voyage, while some of us were so much upset that they had to be lifted ashore from the launch. Our general condition was not in the least inviting and it was a problem to those, who came to receive us, whether the sickly lot would ever be fit to play cricket. But once we landed, we got rid of the uneasy feelings, though some of us were so much under the influence of sea-sickness that they found even the *terra firma* of Ceylon playing all the nasty tricks of the S. S. 'Cotoria.' We drove to the Globe Hotel, where the inviting team had made arrangements for our board and lodging.

On the day of our arrival, we co mmenced the match against the Singalese Sports Cricket Club. The opponents had an excellent combination, having amongst others Douglas D'Saram, the famous Ceylonese crack, who is pronounced "as having no superior as an all-round cricketer in the Island." He is not a stranger to Bombay cricketers, for he made a favourable impression by his all round excellence during the test matches, held in connection with the proposed visit of the Indian Team to England in 1903.

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The first innings of the Singalese was characterised by the brilliant performance of D'Saram. It was indeed a treat to watch him playing. In every respect he was an exact representation of our Indian Champion, Major Mistry. His stance at the crease, his style of timing a cut and his free graceful swing in the act of driving, could not but put us in mind of Mistry. This great player is the idol of the Ceylonese crowd and his performance is always awaited by the spectators with an eager gaze. When Major Mistry, by his performance at the Lords against the M. C. C., evoked the admiration of the English crowd as the greatest bat next to Ranji, India had produced, one of the Ceylonese correspondents went so far as to dispute this claim and placed D'Saram even above Major Mistry. Without assenting to that view, which is by no means correct, we may at least say that D'Saram can legitimately boast of a high place in the ranks of Indian cricketers. Next in order of merit and score was Goonesekeri, who played in a free easy style and who a year later, carried the game against us, while playing for the Ceylon team in Bombay, in 19 06.

In our first innings, Vakil (chicken) came out with a nice 49. Had this young player kept up the game, he might have proved one of the best bats adorning the long train of Parsee cricketers. He has a style of his own. He has a feeble driving power but puts a lot of powder in his shots behind the wicket. He is a masterhand at glance and cutting and in that capacity there are few Elphs. who can came upto his level.

In the second innings, the Singalese fared badly at the start, losing D'Saram and two other stalwarts for 24 only. But our players failed to keep up the excellent start. With the progress of their innings both our bowlers and fielders showed signs of wearing out. On this tour, we had great resources to draw upon for batting, but in the attack we were somewhat out of stock. All throughout Neksatkhan and Antia bore the brunt and with the exception of Vakil, there was hardly any suitable bowler to replace them Mullamure and Goonesekere had easy times at the wicket and they got more runs than they really deserved to

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score. Towards the conclusion of their innings our team was entirely fagged up, the result being in no small measure due to our long journey and nasty voyage of over three days.

With fifty five minutes left for play, a finish seemed out of question. But no body expected the Elphs. to wind up their second innings so miserably. There was no stand of any length, and during the short time, five wickets went up with a rattle. The match was drawn.

THE SINGALESE SPORTS CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Mullamure, c Gimi, b Neksat ...	16	c N. Vakil, b Vakil ...	42
De. Botegu, run out	14	c & b Parekh	22
G. Weerasurya, b Antia	11	b Vakil	5
C. Alamhari, b Antia	0	c Doctor, b Neksat ...	11
O. De Alvis, b Vakil	4	b Neksat	9
D. De Saram, b Antia	32	b Antia	10
D. Goonesekeri, not out	34	c Parekh. b Antia	38
J. Halangoda, b Parekh	0	c Mulla, b Vakil	12
R. Ekanayake, b Antia	8	not out	11
J. De Silva, b Parekh	5	c Neksat, b Antia	0
W. Fernando, b Antia...	17	not out	2
Extras	11	Extras	14
Total ...	152	Total (9 wkts.) ...	176

BOWLING ANLYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Naksatkhan	...10	1	23	1	11	2	28	2
Vakil ...	...19	3	47	1	19	4	59	3
Antia ...	...17	3	49	5	24	3	59	3
Parekh ...	... 9	1	22	2	8	1	16	1

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
N. Vakil, b Alumhari	29	did not bat	
M. Parekh, c Weerasurya, b Alumhari	25	b De Saram	6
J. Mody, b De Saram	21	c Mullamure, b Goonesekeri	5
H. Gimi, b Alumhari	42	not out	2
M. Neksatkhan, b Alumhari	1	c Ekanayake, b Alumhari ...	1
H. Mulla, b Goonesekeri	0	Goonesekeri, b De Saram...	1

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P. Vakil, c Alumhari, b Goonesekeri ...	12	not out	0		
B. Mehta, c & b Goonesekeri	15	b Alumhari	8		
J. Antia, c De Silva, b Alumhari ...	7	} did not bat			
D. Vakil, not out	1				
F. Doctor, b Alumhari	4				
Extras	14	Extras	10		
Total ...	171	Total (5 wkts.) ...	33		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
De Saram	22	3	46	1	8	2	11	2
Goonesekeri	22	7	33	3	5	2	6	1
Fernando	11	1	34	0	0	0	0	0
Alumhari	15	1	44	6	10	5	5	2
De Silva	4	4	0	0	.	.	.	.
De Alves	.	.	.	.	2	1	1	0

We owed the inclusion of our second match against the Colts Cricket Club to the kind endeavours of Mr. F. Dadabhoy, who took great interest in the fortune of our team. The Parsees and the Colts, in fact the whole of the cricket public of Colombo, were anxious to see the match being arranged ; and Mr. M. F. Khan very generously removed the one great difficulty about finance, by volunteering to entertain the team as his guests during the period the contest lasted. Mr. Khan's generosity amongst the Ceylonese is well known and lately he has shown his appreciation of the game by his munificent offer of Rs. 3,000 for the erection of a pavilion for the Colts Club, which bears his name.

On the morning following the match with the Singalese, the team started for a picnic trip to Kandy. As the train laboured up the breast of the mountains, a beautiful variety of natural scenes passed before our eyes in a pleasing succession, like the moving shows on a cinema screen. It was indeed hard to find a barren spot. The whole scene, for miles and miles together was one expanse of greenland, carpeted with neatly washed verdure, and interspersed with imposing palm groves, tea gardens, paddy fields and cocoa plantations. The little town of Kandy is highly picturesque, its existence lost to a distant gaze, so deeply is it buried in the midst of the majestic

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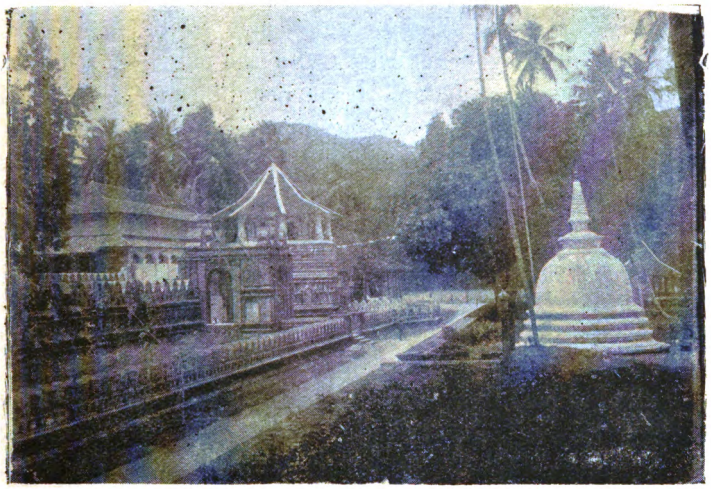
trees, which guard its frontiers. The famous Buddhist temple, whose most valued treasure is the tooth of Buddh, is an interesting edifice, reared some years after the passing of the Great Master. Not far from the town, are the new Paradiniya Gardens, one of the most delightful spots ever visited by the team. No visitor ever traversed the beautiful avenues, but paused, lost in admiration before the exposition of the horticultural skill and even the most well known botanists, hardened to these sights could not refrain from showering praises on the ability of the gardener, who had laid out the gardens. We may cherish many



Buddhist Temple

mental pictures of scenic beauty but in midst of them all, the scenes at Kandy will always find a prominent place. Never was the hand of art better employed in displaying the sylvan beauties of Dame Nature than at this delightful spot. In the evening we returned to Colombo from the enchanted land of verdure.

Our second match with the Colts Cricket Club, which came off on the 26th and 27th December, was looked forward to with great interest by the cricket enthusiasts of the Island. Our opponents formed the pick of the Ceylonese cricket talent ; and as Ceylon cricket is of a high order, the team that confronted us

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might well nigh be ranked as first class, from the Indian point of view. It contained players, who had deported themselves creditably against the various Australian and English teams, while playing at Colombo on their way for the fight for the 'ashes.'

It was on a delightful piece of ground that the Elphs. met the Colts Cricket Club. The outfield was level and velvety but the pitch was soft and in nature very much resembled our College pitch in the monsoon. Owing to the somewhat sodden nature of the soil, anything in the way of high scoring was rendered out of question. We lost the toss and were send in first. We started badly and with 29-6-3, we seemed 'to be in the cart.' Player after the player returned with the paltriest score ; but Doctor alone redeemed our total from insignificance. He seemed inspired and so striking was his performance, when the top bats failed that the spectators endearingly dubbed him 'the little great man.'' He punished Kelaart regardless of his reputation as the 'Rhodes of Ceylon'. It was indeed a real fighting and plucky innings and more creditably to him when his side was in such evil plight. His timely score of 34 not only astounded the Ceylonese but stilled the crticisms so unjustly fabricated against his selection. On the field, our bowlers Neksatkhan and Antia rose to the occasion and did not allow much latitude to the Colts to gather their score. Heyzer and Pollock struggled hard to collar the bowling but they could not do much beyond scoring 22 and 21 in the most watchful style. Our fielding was simply superb and and Doctor brought about the catch of the match.

In our second innings, Mody and Neksat played up to their standard ; but it was the dashing innings of Parekh that carried the batting honours. He belongs to the school of steady players but at times he plays a vigorous game calculated to excite the interest of the spectators. Our total of 111 was not at all hopeful. Under ordinary circumstances the Colts with their armoury of powerful bats would have been confident of a win ; but the bowling of Neksat and Antia was not a factor to be despised. The excitement for the result was intense when the

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Elphs. took the field and the match was witnessed with great interest by hundreds of spectators.

Amidst deafening cheers and waving of hundreds of handkerchieves the Colts opened their innings. But the Ceylonese cracks failed to stand the ordeal from the very start and went down with a crash against the destructive onslaught of Neksat and Antia. Their whole innings could be resolved into Heyzer and his partners, nominal partners, for Heyzer gave his lion share though by very slow instalments. He was the only player, who played our bowlers with confidence and resorted to the watchful tactics of knocking them out of their breath. In his score of 60, a monument of watchful and patient game, no less than 30 were singles. At 87-6-0, our captain releaved Antia, who was much exhausted. Vakil replaced him and in his nervousness, sent one of the loosest overs of the tour. At a bound the figures rose on the board and at the end of his over, the Colts required only 8 runs for win, with four wickets to spare. The Ceylonese crowd roared and cheered Heyzer, as the idea dawned that the victory was in their grasp. On the other hand the European spectators, who were all for us, sent their mad cry 'Captain, change the bowler.' The next over of Neksat realised 4 runs and only 4 more were needed to topple our score. It was million to one against our winning the match. But a transformation scene followed. Antia again resumed the bowling and poured in his deadly over. His first ball got Heyzer behind the sticks. Crack ! Crack ! went other two wickets without the addition of a single run. Pereira their last hope, now faced Neksat and seemed to be perplexed with the difficult situation. It is one of the well-known maxims in whist " When in doubt, play trumps "; and the player thinking that it was equally true in cricket, tried to solve the difficulty by doing a bold thing. A splendid effort he made and skied a high hit near the screen. D. Vakil made a frantic effort to reach the ball. We had despaired of the match ; but hurrahs rent the air for the catch was safely lodged. The match was won by a narrow margin of 4 runs ; one of the most exciting and brilliant

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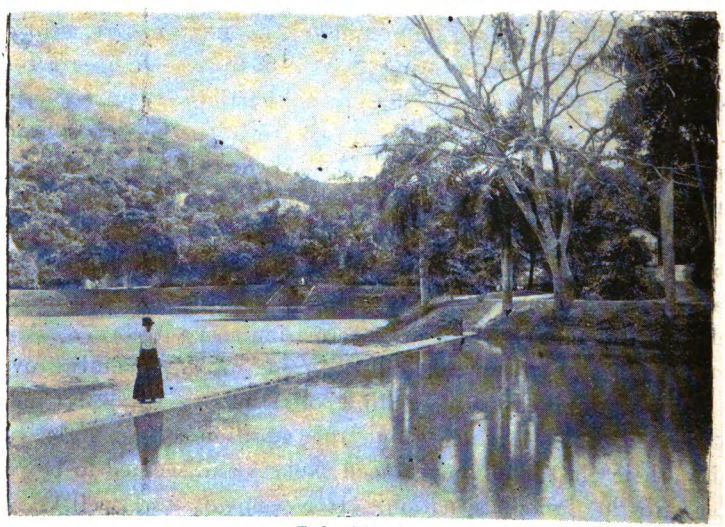
victories that will adorn the annals of the tour. It was an exciting ding dong battle ; at one stage the Colts seemed certain of victory, when the Elphs. snatched the joy cup from their lips.

Both the crowd and press were loud and hospitable in their praises of our signal victory and congradulations poured in from every side in the form of deafening cheers that greeted the result. Below we quote the comments of the Times of Ceylon, the leading paper of the Island.

" In second match, the Colts were beaten by 4 runs after a hard and interesting struggle. No one will deny that the Parsees richly deserved the success they obtained. They formed a splendid all round combination and good conditions helped to



Lake Kandy

made their ground fielding a marvel of sustained energy and enabled them to go through it with scarcely a trace of staleness. The fielding as every one remarked was magnificent. Ceylon critics were struck by the fine form shown by nearly all the members of the team. Mody, the Presidency bat, stood alone however amongst the batsmen of his side. Although he did not

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make a large score, his play in the first innings of the Colts match showed the class of batsmen he was. After Mody came Gimi and Parekh. Gimi is also a first rate man. He has a number of good strokes and hits with confidence. Parekh played two fine innings, his best being the second innings in the Colt's match. Antia was undoubtedly the hero of the team. He bowled superbly and always put a good amount of 'devil' in his deliveries. He was a general favourite with the crowd and fully deserved the many encomiums, passed upon his success."

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
N. Vakil, c Rozario, b Kretser ...	5	b Kretser	6
M. Parekh, c Joseph, b Kelaart ...	0	b Joseph	33
J. Mody, b Peglotte	10	c Thomas, b Joseph ...	23
H. Gimi, c Thomas, b Kelaart	1	lbw Kelaart	0
M. Neksatkhan, lbw Kretser	11	b Joseph	28
P. Vakil, c Joseph, b Kelaart	18	b Kretser...	4
H. Mulla, c & b Kelaart	4	b Joseph	4
B. Metha, c Heyzer, b Joseph	5	c Joseph b Kretser ...	0
F. Doctor, b Kelaart	34	c Rozario, b Joseph ...	1
J. Antia, b Kretser	2	c & b Joseph	4
D. Vakil, not out	1	not out	0
Extras ...	2	Extras ...	8
Total	93	Total	111

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Kelaart ...	29	14	29	5	17	4	38	2
Kretser ...	16	5	24	3	15	3	31	3
Peglotte ...	8	3	12	1	5	2	5	0
Joseph ...	9	2	26	1	12	1	29	5

COLTS CRICKET CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
L. Thomas, b Neksat	15	b Neksat	5
W. Rozario, c Neksat, b Antia ...	7	b Neksat	1
T. Kelaart, c Neksat, b Antia ...	3	b Antia	0
M. Heyzer, b Parekh ...	22	c Mulla, b Antia	60
C. Pereira, low Antia ...	0	b Antia ...	0
E. Weerasurya, c Doctor, b Neksat ...	11	b Antia ...	6

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A. Pollocks, not out	...	21	c Mehta, b Antia	...	0
A. Raffel, run out	...	14	c Parekh, b Neksat	...	13
D. Joseph, b Neksat	..	0	c Vakil, b Neksat	...	4
A. Paglotte, b Neksat	...	0	b Antia	...	2
L. Kretser, b Neksat	...	4	not out	...	0
Extras ...	...	2	Extras ...	...	10
Total	...	99	Total	...	101

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Neksatkhan	20	8	41	5	21	5	41	4
Vakil	6	2	9	0	12	0	15	0
Antia	17	5	25	3	19	3	35	6
Parekh	4	0	22	1	...	...	...	...

After the close of the match, our host Mr. M. Khan was kind enough to present a bat to Neksat and Antia for their great share in the victory and a souvenier to each of the members as a momento of the brilliant victory.

Breaking up is the worst part of a visit and it was with a feeling of regret that we bade farewell to our kind host Mr. M. Khan, whose generosity had put us under great obligation and to Messrs. F. D. Nasserwanji and F. Dadabhoy, who had laboured hard to enable us to pass a successful week at Colombo. We were given a hearty 'send off' at the Bunder and amidst the ringing cheers and the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' we boarded the S. S. 'Matilda'. On the evening of the 28th, we left the Spicy Island and sped Northward Ho !

On our return journey, we revisited Bangalore and played two matches. The first came off on the 31st December and 1st January against the Bangalore United Club on the Bangalore Gymkhana ground. The ground was perfectly true and fast and our century makers were soon at work. Neksat, who was much in prominence on this tour brought a fitting conclusion to his achievements by signalling the first century of the tour. All through

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his play was phenomenal and there was scarcely any period, in which he relapsed into inactivity. At College he began somewhat as a defensive bat but during course of time he added various strokes to his outfit, till he could play briskly and score all round. His driving is good but lacks vigour ; but on the leg side his strokes are made with such precision, so as to send the ball careering to the ropes at a great speed. Our captain P. Vakil partnered well with the centurian and by his patient style assisted his clubmate in raising the total score from 62 to 202, the most productive partnership recorded in our tour history. It may be here remarked that our captain had done useful work, with his bat and head and though he had only three bowlers at his disposal, so judicious a use, he made of them that he was able to carry his team with success through the most dangerous ordeals.

M, Neksatkhan

The Bangalories were a redoutable lot in batting and if Jairam had aided them, it is likely that they might have reached our our total. On this occasion, our team lost its reputation as good fielders and missed eight catches, thereby nullifying the effect of good bowling. Bad catching in this match was the only misdemeanour of the team while on field, during the whole tour. The team as a whole played well. Shrinivasrao played in splendid style and stood next to Jairam amongst the Bangalories. The scoring was as fast as high. Out of their total of 175, some 25 were 4's and 20 2's and 3's, an excellent tribute to the fast nature of the ground.

In the second innings the scoring was again high. A draw was inevitable and the match dragged on to a futile conclusion. In their second innings, there ran a ray of excitement, when Seshiyangar took his position against Neksat. The former was a burly young man and by his witty and frank disposition had

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made himself the 'pet' of both the teams. The night before, in hilarious moments he had challenged Neksat to take his wicket before he had slashed him for a few fours. As ill-luck would have it, he was bowled with an easy half volley. Somewhat chagrined at having lost the challenge, he amusingly remarked "Yes you have bowled me but for God's sake don't give such a ball to Ga-ga-rat (Gagarat, the Parsee crack) or he will smack your blooming face."

The result was an even draw.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
N. Vakil, c Shrinivasrao, b Sudarseman	1	did not bat ...	...
M. Parekh, c Shrinivasrao, b Sudarseman	1	b Leonard ...	16
H. Mulla, c Shrinivasrao, b Sudarseman	7	c Singaram, b Sudarseman	12
J. Mody, c Shrinivasrao, b Pillai	24	not not ...	32
M. Neksatkhan, c Seshiyanger, b Pillai	105	c Shrinivasrao, b Sudarseman	1
H. Gimi, b Pillai	6	c Shrinivasrao, b Leonard	14
B. Vakil, lbw Pillai	33	c Vasu, b Leonard ...	14
B. Mehta, not out	5	b Singaram ...	3
F. Doctor, b Vasu	4	} did not bat	
J. Antia, b Vasu	3		
D. Vakil, run out	0		
Extras	30	Extras	22
Total ...	219	Total (6 wkts) ...	114

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Leonard	20	7	42	0	18	7	34	3
Sudarseman	19	3	69	3	14	2	43	2
Pillai	20	6	20	4	5	1	15	0
Vasu	6	1	15	2	...	...	...	...
Singaram	7	1	17	0	1	1	0	1
Ramrao	8	1	26	0	...	...	...	...

UNITED CRICKET CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Sudarseman, c Mulla, b Antia ...	26	b Vakil	1
D. Vasu, c Vakil, b Neksat ...	5	not out	19
D. Shrinivasrao, c N. Vakil, b Antia	24	b Vakil	7
Singaram, b Antia	10	c Mulla, b Antia	3

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Isuram, b Vakil	21	b Vakil	9
Appachu, c Mulla, b Vakil ...	6	c Mulla, b Vakil	10
K. Iyenger, not out	17	b Neksat	7
K. Pillai, run out	32		
P. Leonard, c Neksat, b Antia ...	19	} did not bat	
Ram Rao, b Vakil	0		
Oosmankhan, b Neksat	6		
Extras ...	9	Extras	2
Total ...	175	Total (6 wkts.) ...	58

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Neksatkhan	14	2	41	2	4	0	5	1
Antia	27	8	77	4	9	1	26	1
Vakil	14	8	48	3	12	3	25	4

During the days of the match the home team entertained us comfortably and their busy secretary Mr. Seshiyanger left nothing to be desired in our hotel arrangements. At the hotel we came across strange devotees of Bacchus ; for they washed down the throat half a tumbler of whisky, undiluted and untempered and munched down a plantain without peeling off the skin, to hide the volatile smell. The effect of plantain on liquor is known but that of the skin is hard to explain away. Even Gimi, the great exponent of Materia Medica was unable to throw any light on it.

A one-day match on the 31st with the Bangalore Volunteers completed the fixture card of the tour. We had the first innings and put up 172 in double quick time ; Gimi and Mulla scoring 45 and 64 at a most rattling speed. The latter seemed to be ' off colour ' at Ceylon but was in fine fettle during the match at Bangalore. He jockeyed the overs nicely and made many of the exciting hits so usual with him. The home team was weak in bowling ; P. Pereira being the only bowler of prominence. He was one of the best bowlers, we came across on this tour and may stand on a par with Kelaart and Watters. He captured 6 for 47 a fine performance in itself. But their batting was even weaker than their bowling. In the second innings they had 6 for 26 ; but Pereira and Hayes played in a desparado style and finished off the innings for 117. We won the match by an innings and 3 runs.

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ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

N. Vakil, c Hayes, b Pereira	4
M. Parekh, b Pereira	5
H. Gimi, c Rolland, b Pereira ...	45
J. Mody, c Rolland, b Pereira ...	2
M. Neksatkhan, c Rolland, b Pereira	10
P. Vakil, b Pereira	15
H. Mulla, not out	64
R. Kanga, b Pereira	9
F. Doctor, b Pereira	0
J. Antia, c Osborne, b Rolland ...	3
D. Vakil, b Rolland	0
Extras	15
Total ...	172

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W
Rolland	22	2	60	2
Pereira	21	9	47	6
P. Leonard	7	0	15	1
G. Hayes	7	1	20	0
Osborne	2	1	4	0
C. Pereira	5	4	2	0
Cox	2	0	9	0

BANGALORE VOLUNTEERS.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
M. Rolland, b Vakil	3	b Vakil	3
H. Osborne, c P. Vakil, b Neksat ...	22	lbw Vakil	1
J. Pereira, c Mody, b Antia	1	c P. Vakll, b Neksat ...	0
M. Hayes, b Vakil	0	c Doctor, b Parekh ...	48
P. Pereira, b Vakil	0	c P. Vakil, b Neksat ...	40
F. Hayes, b Vakil	0	b Vakil	4
P. Leonard, b Neksat...	19	b Neksat	10
G. Cox, b Neksat	0	not out	1
C. Pereira, c Neksat, b Vakil ...	0	c Mulla, b Neksat	2
B. Lawrence, b Neksat, ...	6	run out	0
G. Hayes, not out	1	b Vakil	0
Extras	0	Extras	8
Total ...	52	Total ...	117

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	B.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Antia	5	3	17	1	11	0	18	0
Vakil	14	8	24	5	8	0	33	4
Naksatkhan	7	2	11	4	7	0	35	4
Parekh	...	...	...	...	5	0	23	1

On the morning of the 5th January, we concluded one of the most execiting and successful tours. It was full of a good number of first class matches, century, long partnership, close finishes,

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excellent bowling feats, sensational collapses, unexpected defeats, exciting victories, foolish errors of runs and occasional bad fielding. Success and failure were curiously interwoven and but for the match at Kolar, our reputation scarcely suffered. It was the present students' contingent that had monopolised the honours of the tour and much of the superlative quality of our success, was in no small measure due to the stalwart bat and bowler, Neksat and Antia. It was truly a great tour, brimful of excitement and pleasure and remarkable not merely for sensationalism but also for the high standard of cricket, much in advance of that played during the first tour.

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The Team

CHAPTER IV.

The First Karachi Tour.

1905.

Period 18 days. Miles 1100.

TEAM.

Prof. E. A. Wodehouse. (Capt.)	Mr. H. F. Mulla.
Mr. P. H. Vakil.	,, N. A. Kasad.
,, M. R. Parekh.	,, Jam. D. Antia.
,, M. B. Watcha.	,, Jeh. D. Antia.
,, H. D. Gimi.	,, S. M. Chothia.
,, B. F. Mehta.	,, R. M. Pavri.
,, M. K. Neksatkhan.	,, B. K. Dadachanji.
,, F. S. Doctor.	(Hony. Sec. and Treasr.)

This year is memorable for the captaincy of Prof. Wodehouse and for the presence of a member of the college staff for the first time on tour. A fine all round player and a pleasant companion to boot, Prof. Wodehouse proved a valuable asset to the tour team. A sportsman to the finger tip, enthusiastic, good tempered,

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cheerful and full of mirth and humour, whether things went right or wrong. He handled his side with admirable skill and discipline and a really good and efficient captain is so rare a bird that his acquisition was hailed with delight, not only by the tourists but by the Elphs. in general, who took interest in the tours.

But the inauguration of his reign was unpropitious. The team left the shores under unpleasant circumstances for the occurrence of which, the few verbose critics of the previous year, who had started their wild crusade against the management of the tour, were mainly responsible. These worthy personages posed as the champions and guardians of the rights of the students and took upon themselves to play the ridiculous part of that "Metaphysic Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance", going about the College, preaching and advocating to deaf ears their doctrine of the abstract rights of the students to challenge the inner working and management of the tours and attempting to redress grievances, which existed only in their imagination. But in their mock heroic efforts to gain their ends of overthrowing the tour, and to discredit the merit of the tour secretary for the selection of the team, they scarcely succeeded in enlisting the sympathy and support of the students and failed to receive the countenance of the College staff. For students holding their views were but few, a baker's dozen at the most. But with their little minority, these wreckers, for they were so to the tour, succeeded in one thing and that was in surrounding the gay field of the College with an obnoxious atmosphere of dissatisfaction and in breeding the canker of ill feeling, which took some years to die out. It may however be stated that never before, had greater pains been taken in the selection of the team by the captain and the secretary, than on this occasion and no stone was left unturned to ensure the aggregation of the best possible talents. In their task they were somewhat handicapped by the refusal of Mistry, Telang, Mody and Karaka, but the final list scarcely omitted any player of repute or excluded any member, who might reasonably claim a place in the team.

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Although from one end to another, our members are bad sailors, still a tour that begins with a voyage has some advantages. We fortunately escape the dust and restrictions of a railway journey and enjoy together delightful conversation and merry company on the breezy deck. There is no unseemly scramble for room or fighting for berths at night or the tiresome transport and booking of luggage at the necessary junctions, or that most unbecoming hurry, with which one swallows his hot breakfast at the refreshment room, as the guard in his stentorian voice bellows, "The train is starting sirs."

On the morning of the 18 Dec., S. S. 'Linga' left the Bombay pier and glided out into the charming harbour studded with numerous vessels. Even to a bad sailor, a trip within the harbour is a treat, as he enjoys the cool and refreshing breeze gently wafting from the distant *ghauts*, while the varying panorama of mountains and palm-fringed coasts, offers a delightful feast to the eyes. After quitting the harbour all the usual amusements, with which the passengers while away the tedium of a voyage, were in full swing. We enjoyed a game of bridge, in which Prof. Wodehouse joined and a lovely and delightful voyage, as the sea was fairly calm. After leaving Porebunder, the sea became rough and choppy and the majority of us were badly laid up with sea-sickness. Gimi and Neksatkhan had hard times and the latter is one of the worst sailors we have ever seen. On the morning of the 20th, we reached Kiamari, the Carnac Bunder of Karachi and those who slept, for the hour was an early one of six, were speedily awakened by the clanking of chains, as the steamer let go her anchor.

Landing at Kiamari, we drove to the Karachi Cantonment and took our abode at the Travellers Bungalow, which proved convenient in every respect. Towards the approach of evening we found Neksatkhan getting worse hour after hour, and his condition on the ensuing day became so precarious that Dr. Nezareth, who attended him, ordered his removal to the hospital. A few

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days later, his illness developed into typhoid. To be deprived of the services of one of the best men, at the very commencement of the tour, was a serious loss to our side and his absence was keenly felt on the field, especially when a bowler of his type was sadly wanted by our side.

The first match is always an anxious one, especially while playing on foreign soil. Everything is so different, light, pitch, weather and crowd. On the 22nd we started proceedings against the North Western Ry. team on the Mackenzie ground of the Sindh Volunteers. The ground being totally devoid of turf, matting was used. The matting pitch is very annoying to a batsman especially when pitted against a fast bowler. The ball simply whizzes up after leaving the pitch, while every now and then one rises abruptly high to the great discomfiture of the batsman, who is not sure of the safety of his knuckles, as he goes forward to receive the ball. It is quite different from a turf pitch ; cutting and hooking, being both difficult and risky.

Prof. E. Wodehouse

Our beginning proved far from satisfactory, 5 wickets for 25 only. We felt at sea and were completely disconcerted by the 'rib roasters' delivered by Luxmon (Semper) and Fardy. Gimi however played a plucky and courageous innings and saved us from an awkward rot. He forged steadily ahead, never minding

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being hurt and compiled a spirited 52, in not quite pleasant surroundings. Fardy and Luxmon did good work with the ball and got a lot of aid from the pitch, which all through sent the balls at a tremendous pace and undesirable height.

While on the field, the want of a really good fast bowler was immediately felt. Watcha was fairly successful, but the bowling of Jeh. Antia and Kasad, the stock bowlers of the team, afforded food for disappointment both to themselves and the team. The former hates the sight of matting, while the latter a very promising colt, was hopelessly out of form. Without any other fast bowler, it was indeed an anxious moment for our captain to speculate what he would do, should Watcha also break down. Their innings ended for 130, to which Fardy, the Ry. Jessop contributed 34 with rattling hitting. Our second knock realised 150. None of us did brilliantly, the total being pretty evenly distributed. With 156 to our credit, we were rather sure of enlisting our first victory. The Ry. team started at a brisk rate and within an hour signalled 104 for 4. Green played a slashing innings but Luxmon adopted steady tactics and contented himself by stealing a run here and there. The result was still hanging in balance but Almaida and Fardy soon put the issue beyond the vestige of a doubt : Fardy played an excellent hitting game and skied a ball, which lodged on the roof of an adjoining house. The match was lost by 5 wickets and 1 run.

Our ground fielding was good ; though catching was spasmodic ; easy catches being dropped while hard ones held.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
M. Parekh, c Green, b Fardy	...	14	b Fardy	0
Jam. Antia, c Fardy, b Marshall	...	1	b Fardy	10
S. Chothia, c Fardy, b Marshall	...	9	c Marshall, b Mobed	... 18
P. Vakil, b Fardy, ...	...	5	b Luxmon...	24
H. Gimi, b Luxmon	...	52	c Judah, b Mobed	... 20
E. Wodehouse, b Marshall ...	...	0	b Luxmon	15

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N. Kasad, c Judah, b Marshall	... 8	b Luxmon	1
H. Mulla, c Almeida, b Mobed	... 17	c Fardy, b Luxmon	... 12
M. Watcha, b Luxmon ..	... 1	c Judah, b Luxmon	.. 18
R. Pavri, not out	... 14	b Fardy	... 9
Jeh. Antia, c Pereira, b Luxmon	... 13	not out	.. 14
Extras ...	... 11	Extras ...	... 12
Total	... 145	Total	... 153

N. W. Ry. TEAM.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
D. Judah, b Watcha	... 0	c Antia, b Kasad ...	... 21
L. Green, c Mulla, b Watcha ...	... 1	b Kasad ...	... 43
F. Almeida, b Watcha	... 9	not not ...	 42
H. Luxmon, st Mulla, b Parekh	... 25	b Wodehouse	 25
Capt. Freeland, c Wodehouse, b Watcha	12	b Kasad, ...	.. 2
H. Fardy, st Mulla, b Parekh ...	... 34	b Antia	... 21
E. Cabral, c Antia, b Parekh ...	... 0	not out	... 3
J. Almeida, b Parekh	... 17	} did not bat	
C. Pareira, not out	... 20		
D. Mobed, b Wodehouse ...	... 5		
H. Marshall, b Watcha ...	... 7		
Extras	5	Extras	7
Total	... 135	Total (5 wkts)	... 164

Karachi is poorly supplied with beauties of nature and devoid of places of interest, where a tourist can kill time by sauntering about from place to place. The only novel thing that claims the interest of a tourist is perhaps camel riding. At first sight it has no attraction for a beginner but when he has reconciled himself to the disjointed movements of the animal, he enjoys it fairly well. The jog-trot at which the animal is ridden implies a progress of 8 to 9 miles an hour and if the rider has a fairly comfortable quilt saddle, it enables him to participate of the pleasant feelings of a brisk ride. But the sharp shocks and movements that one receives during the probationary period of his training, are far from pleasant. The camel has a peculiar gait and like the elephant, still walks on the plan of the ancient and old fashioned beasts. It moves both its side legs simultaneously and then awkwardly swings round its off

Y. S. Chitale Digitized by Google

shoulder and haunch, so as to repeat the movement on the side. It is therefore the gait that causes that sharp movement and shaking, which are so very annoying to the unaccustomed.

On the 24th, we turned up for the second match against the Karachi Parsee Institute, with no very sanguine hopes of registering a win. Mulla could not assist owing to his sprained knee ; B. Mehta, the auxiliary man taking his place. Unfortunately, all throughout this tour we had to play on matting ; but on the Parsee ground, unlike any other pitch in Karachi, the matting was laid on turf. The coarse turf reared at considerable expense of water and money, modified the fiery nature of soil and reduced the height of the ball to a considerable extent. The Parsees had a good combination and at best are a hefty team, capable of holding their own against any other local eleven. Their supreme position during that period, was to no small extent due to the three Dinshaw brothers and Contractor. The first three monopolized the premier places in all the departments of the game ; G. Dinshaw was the best wicket-keeper ; N. Dinshaw the best bowler; and H. Dinshaw the best bat. Contractor, who had the honour to represent the Parsees at Bombay, was a dashing bat but out of form during the period of our visit. P. Golwala, though not a class bowler, narrowly missed the honour of enacting a record of bagging all our 10 wickets.

Winning the toss, the Parsees played confidently and from one end to another gave their share to the huge total of 247 runs. H. Dinshaw played a useful innings for 49, chiefly raised by strokes behind the wickets, though Contractor with his 39, was more interesting to watch with his stylish and powerful drives to the 'off.' Our innings was noted for the brilliant partnership of Mehta and Parekh, who put up 90 between them. The former made 51, the first and the last good score during his tour career of 7 years. Since then he has acquired the knack of injuring himself and failed to render any useful support to his side on the field, though he has made up amply by playing useful and

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humorous innings at home. It was rather rough luck on Chothia that the tail end did not remain sufficiently long, to enable him to compile a good score, especially when he was well set and was expected to do great things. He was a valuable addition to our tour and a more finished bat than a fresh man at the College usually is. Gifted by nature with a keen eye, he watches and meets the ball full in the face. He has a beautiful stance at the wicket and there is an air of ease and grace about him, which justified the praise, lavished on him by his admirers and the indulgence of hero-worship by his blind devotees. Some called him 'School boy Greig' others 'Embryonic Mistry.' But these high synonyms or rather pseudonyms wrought him no good. In his anxiety to play up to the estimate formed of him, he became nervous and failed to score. But his greatest defect is that he generally plays to the gallery and for the amusement of the spectators, forgetting that the crowd is the incidental and not the integral part of cricket.

S. Chothia

At 95-2-27, the Parsees declared their second innings and left us one hour and a half to score 172. Prof. Wodehouse opened the innings with Chothia and elected to try for a win and from the start made a dash for the runs. He banged judiciously and brought runs in double quick time. His great innings came to

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a premature end at 46 and heralded another great innings that he was to play next year against the same team and under the same circumstances, when he was fortunate enough to carry his team to victory on those broad shoulders of his. Gimi and Parekh played a grand and commendable game but discredited their doings by bad judgment towards the end. When 30 runs were wanted with 16 minutes to time, they relaxed their rate of scoring and relapsed into cautious tactics, when caution was the least thing needed by our side. Undoubtedly their judgement in playing the game, they did at the last stage of the match, was very defective; for even if they had lost their wickets, there were enough bats to play out time and avert a defeat, which was the least in question. At the stroke of time we fell short of only 8 runs to complete the exciting victory.

KARACHI PARSEE INSTITUTE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
M. Dinshaw, b Antia	21	c & b Antia	27
N. Dinshaw, c Parekh, b Antia ...	24	b Antia	11
H. Dinshaw, run out	49	not out	28
J. Minwala, c Chothia, b Watcha ...	25	not out	16
T. Contractor, c Gimi, b Antia ...	39		
G. Dinshaw, c Wodehouse, b Parekh	21		
B. Gadially, b Antia	33		
B. Mehta, b Parekh	1		
T. Minwala, run out	19		
B. Mehta, not out	2		
B. Golwala, b Antia	0		
Extras	13	Extras	13
Total ...	247	Total (2 wkts.) ...	95

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
E. Wodehouse, c H. Dinshaw, b Golwala ...	2	run out	46
S. Chothia, b Gadially	27	c & b N. Dinshaw ..	29
Jeh. Antia, not out	6	c Minwalla, b Gadially...	12
M. Parekh, c Contractor, b Golwala ...	49	not out	31
H. Gimi, b Golwala	1	not out...	40

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R. Pavri, st G. Dinshaw, b Golwala ...	...	2		
B. Mehta, b Golwala	...	51		
P. Vakil, c Contractor, b Golwala ...	...	0		
Jam. Antia, b Golwala	..	10	did not bat	
N. Kasad, c G. Dinshaw, b Golwala	...	0		
M. Watcha, b Golwala	...	3		
Extras ...	...	18	Extras ...	7
Total		169	Total (3 wkts.)	165

Camel riding formed our staple enjoyment at Karachi, and every morning and evening of our off days, a long train of camels carrying our team, left the Travellers Bungalow. The Christmas day was full of incidents. While one party was having interesting and exciting times with the 'Tommy Atkins' at Clifton, the other party met with a woeful mishap. Having got schooled to this new exercise and being fairly out of the city, we were taken with a propensity to have a 'Derby' on a modest scale. As we jockeyed the camel at a brisk rate, the animal tripped and awkwardly twisted the hind party of his body, with the result that one of the members, who was playing a second fiddle on the back, flew out of the saddle like a sea gull and after describing a very respectable parabola landed heavily on the course. Fortunately through the sandy nature of the soil, he did not receive any serious injury beyond a temporary stunning. But the ill luck had not ended; for to add insult to injury, the animal refused to stoop down to receive the unfortunate pedestrian. We had forgotton the all important word *Hushi*, which in camel phraseology meant 'stoop down.' We exhausted the whole vocabulary of the various languages and the unfortunate member even enacted before the animal a pantomime, mimicing his kneeling down. But the silly animal with his wagging tongue and pouting lips remained obdurate and refused to listen to the orders, which smacked of foreign language or to see the worthless imitation of his actions. The unfortunate member was therefore obliged to walk a long way, till he got a suitable raised wall, to enable him to effect the mounting.

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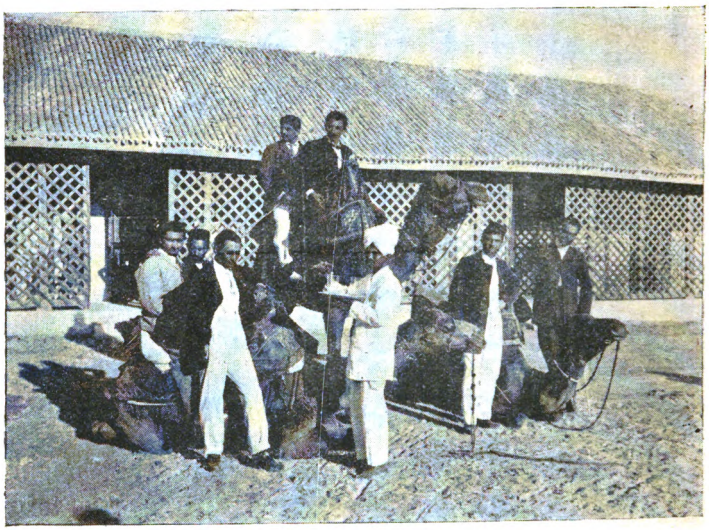
Our indecisive match with the Parsees was followed by an interesting one against the Sindh Volunteers. The Volunteers had a fairly strong team, H. Dinshaw, the best bat at Karachi then, aiding them.

Prof. Wodehouse winning the toss, opened the innings in quite a merry fashion, troubling the volunteers with



Ready for evening ride

runs all round the wicket. A tall stoutly built athlete, Prof. Wodehouse presents a perfect study at the crease. With his brawny shoulders, he drives hard to the 'on' side but has the bad habit of lifting his strokes to rather a dangerous height. He is good at cutting but slow on the leg, which is his weak point. P. Vakil again shone out and gave a drastic blow to his critics at Bombay, who said that he was lingering too long on the stage and that it was time for him to retire from the College cricket. Jam. Antia partnered well his clubmate Vakil and revenged his injury, received from the bowlers by slashing them for 31.

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In the field, Jeh. Antia was in fine fettle with the ball and when once H. Dinshaw was dismissed, the rest failed to make an effective stand. He took 8 wickets for 38, his only good performance on matting during his whole cricket career. The opponents were a strong batting side and this is high praise for his bowling. Through a bad piece of fielding, the home team saved the follow on.

Next day we commenced our second innings with a two fold object. We had to save time as well as to score a good total, so as to put them beyond the possibility of making a surprise score and robbing us of our match. As already stated the volunteers were a strong team and so long as H. Dinshaw stuck to his post, nothing was considered safe. Prof. Wodehouse again like a severe school master began slashing the bowlers and within a short time tamed them. The rest followed suit and played in most lively style. The rate of score increased *pro rata* as we approached the time to declare. The last moments were very interesting; Parekh and Jam. Antia putting 38 within 10 minutes.

The second innings of the Volunteers represented the mammoth performance of one single man, H. Dinshaw, who scored 86 and got out only 7 minutes before time at the fall of the 9th wicket. He played Watcha with ease and confidence and stayed for 2 hours and a half to compile his score, the result of a patient, steady and watchful game. We had already despaired of the result, when Watcha by a beautiful leg break beat him clean and disturbed his wickets. We won the match by 133 runs, only two minutes before time.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
E. Wodehouse, c Hannah, b Golwala ...	30	c Soloman, b Cowasji ...	50
S. Chothia, b Sylvester	21	b Sylvester	10
B. Mehta, c Dinshaw, b Golwala ...	0	l b w Sylvester	39
P. Vakil, b Golwala	43	did not bat	0
H. Gimi, b Sylvester	5	c Dinshaw, b Cawasji ...	14

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Jam. Antia, b Mehta	31	not out	23
M. Parekh, c Cawasji, b Selvester ...	0	not out	17
H. Mulla, c Joseph, b Golwala ...	1	b Golwala	22
N. Kasad, b Cowasji	10	c Mehta, b Golwala ...	17
M. Watcha, b Golwala	12	c Cowasji, b Golwala ...	3
Jeh. Antia, not out	11	c Golwala, b Cowasji ...	9
Extras	9	Extras	24
Total ...	173	Total (8 wkts.) ...	228

SINDH VOLUNTEERS.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Joseph, c Wodehouse, b Watcha	0	c Wodehouse, b Watcha ..	0
Rollings, c Kasad, b Antia	13	b Wodehouse	9
H. Dinshaw, b Antia	12	b Watcha	86
G. Dinshaw, b Antia	5	c & b Wodehouse	28
Cowasji, c Mulla, b Antia	0	b Antia	14
Hannah, b Watcha	21	run out	1
Sylvester, st. Mulla, b Antia ...	9	b Wodehouse	0
Woolf, st. Mulla, b Antia ...	1	b Watcha	1
Solomon, c Mulla, b Antia ...	2	not out	1
Mehta, b Antia	14	b Watcha	23
Golwala, not out	0	b Wodehouse	4
Extras	4	Extras	20
Total ...	81	Total ...	187

On the 30th and 31st December we played the last match of the tour against the all Karachi combined team or as the local press placarded it "Elphinstone College vs. The World," an expression by which we loomed largely in the eyes of the spectators and which tickled our vanity to no small extent. The opposing team was indeed very strong and possessed the cream of best Karachi cricket talent. Stronger teams than 'All Karachi' there have been, but we have never played against such a well combined and workable eleven, possessing uniformly strong players from one end to the other. It was like the memorable square of Wellington at the Battle of Waterloo. Players and bowlers fell to have their places refilled by equally good substitutes, so that during every moment of action whether in batting or on field, we had a solid front presented to us.

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In their first innings they compiled 199 ; Gullia the well known Bora player scored 53 in a very pretty and attractive style; his defence being impregnable and his square cutting being safe and elegant. Green played in a daring style, hitting all sort of balls and undergoing fearful risks at times. Watcha bowled his best but his well directed offorts were wasted by the miserable way in which we let off many catches. He bowled with judgment and though not favoured by the ground and fielders, he worried the players with all kinds of unexpected bowling tricks. He is perhaps the best slow bowler, we have at present, and the College will have to go a long way, before another like him will be discovered. We responded with 106, to which Parekh in his usual style scored 21 at the sacrifice of his ribs and knuckles. In the second innings H. Dinshaw got his eye in and proved a source of trouble to our bowlers. Many a weary day he gave us on this tour and was to give us during our prospective one and we always heaved a sigh of relief, when his back was turned to the wickets. He put in a cautious 85 by safe though not brilliant. cricket. But men cannot war without equipment, cannot hew without strength, so no slow bowler can ever succeed without being equipped with safe pairs of hands in the field. With the progress of the tour, the figures of lost catches increased, to be only surpassed by our performance during the next tour. At 240-8-14, they declared leaving us 2 hours and 30 minutes to sink or swim.

Our beginning again proved disastrous ; but at the fall of the 5th wicket, Gimi and P. Vakil made their memorable stand. For a full hour and a half both stuck to their guns with splendid tenacity against the destructive onslaght of Campbell, who played havoc in our ranks. Their stubborn resistence saved the team *pro tempore* from the danger of a defeat but after their departure affairs again looked gloomy for the College. The fortune of the match see-sawed in a most tantalizing manner, now pointing to a draw at another moment to a defeat. There were 15 minutes left and Mulla took up his position for a draw but just as he was

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Elpb. College vs. All Karachi

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beginning to look comfortable, the lion appeal of 'How's that' went and he was given L. B. W. and another nail was driven in our coffin. Our tail end began to be chopped off bit by bit and at the second ball of the last over, our ninth wicket fell. Jeh. Antia was our last hope. Wabbling and reeling on his knees, with his tongue parched and his head stuffed with numerous instructions, he approached the wicket. 'Play with a dead straight bat' 'Don't move it at all,' to which one in the crowd humorously added 'Look at your bat and not at the ball.' But all these instructions were useless, for the safety of the wickets depended more on the bowler than on poor Antia. If that worthy functionary could send down a straight one, it would be all over with the College. The first two balls fortunately kicked and went over the wickets but the fifth one of Campbell with an unerring aim did its duty and we were obliged to haul down our flag.

We were glad that our opponents were not deprived of their victory for want of a few minutes, for they richly deserved it. On the other hand our performance was not to be despised. The way in which Gimi and Vakil stuck to their post at the critical stage, brought forth praises from the local cricketers and so good a defensive game did the latter play that when he returned to the tent, Prof. Wodehouse greeted him with "Vakil you have played the innings of your life." We lost by 200 runs.

ALL KARACHI COMBINED.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
G. Wilson, b Watcha	0	b Kasad	14
Gullia, c Mulla, b Kasad	53	c & b Watcha	1
H. Dinshaw, c & b Watcha	3	c Parakh, b Kasad... ...	85
H. Luxmon, st. Mulla, b Watcha ...	22	run out	12
N. Dinshaw, c Watcha, b Kasad ...	20	not out	5
J. Green, c Mulla, b Watcha	59	b Kasad	61
G. Dinshaw, c Chothia, b Kasad ...	17	not out	34
G. Campbell, b Antia	2	c Antia, b Kasad	4
H. Fardy, b Kasad	3	c Antia, b Watcha	3

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B. Gadialy, not out	2	b Watcha	14
Luxmon, b Watcha	7	did not bat	0
Extras	11	Extras	7
Total ...	199	Total (8 wkts.) ...	240

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
E. Wodehouse, b Campbell	4	b Luxmon	4
S. Chothia, b Fardy	11	c Luxmon, b Campbell ...	0
B. Mehta, b Campbell	10	c Green, b Campbell ...	0
P. Vakil, b Luxmon	12	b Campbell	30
H. Gimi, b Fardy	1	b Campbell	75
M. Parakh, b Luxmon	21	b Luxmon	2
Jam. Antia, c Dinshaw, b Luxmon ...	14	c Fardy, b Campbell ...	7
B. Mehta, b Gullia, ...	1	c Dinshaw, b Gullia ...	0
N. Kasad, not out	10	not out	1
M. Watcha, b Luxmon	0	c Dinshaw, b Campbell ...	0
Jeh. Antia, b Luxmon	7	b Campbell	0
Extras	15	Extras	14
Total ...	106	Total ...	133

On the evening of the 30th we were dined at the Karachi Parsee Institute, where several Europeans and well-known citizens of Karachi were also invited. Below we quote the menu which is worth preserving as it was the first dinner to which the team had been honoured.

Karachi Parsee Institute

to meet

The Elphinstone College Team,

Anchois aux Olives.
Potage â la Hollandaise.
Filets de seer á la Normande.
Tembalede de Volailla á la Financière.
Canard 'Nara Valley' Salmi.
Poulet Roti et Jambon.
Selle de Mouton Roti.
Aspereges.
Charlotte de Russe a la Praline.
Gelee de Oranges Creme.

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It was indeed a first rate dinner, every body agreeing that he had been exceptionally well done. The loyal toast of "The King" having been honoured, Mr. Framroz Panthakey proposed "To the health of Elphs." Prof. Wodehouse replied on behalf of our team in his usual bright and cheerful style and made some humorous remarks. Amongst other amusing things he said that next time he returned to Karachi he would take good care not to come without three things. A fast bowler ; some armour for Parekh ; and glue for our fielders. But humorous speeches were not all that we had at dinner. Funny anecdotes, comic songs and witty recitals followed in quick succession. A comic recital by Mr. R. Billimoria, narrating the experience of an orthodox, Hindu at England, was very cleverly done and afforded a rich dessert of fun and amusement.

On the evening of the 2nd January, we again boarded S. S. 'Linga,' the majority of our friends coming to the pier to see us off. We have enjoyed an excellent stay although it can hardly be stated that we enjoyed good success from the cricket point of view. The tour failed to realize the expectations of those who promoted it ; the failure or the comparative failure being in no small measure due to circumstances, which were beyond control and which could not reasonably be anticipated. Owing to the bumpy nature of the matting pitch, we failed to come off in batting, while our bowling on matting proved rather below the mark. But above all, our uncertain mode of catching went a long way to swell our opponents' scores and greatly aggravated the weakness of our bowling.

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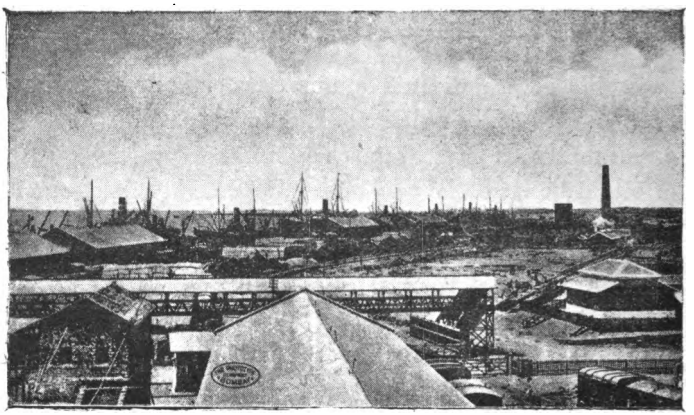

Kiamari

Chapter V.

Second Karachi Tour.

1906.

Period 21 days Miles 1100.

TEAM.

Prof. E. A. Wodehouse. (Capt.)	Mr. Jam. D. Antia.
Mr. J. D. Mody.	,, S. M. Chothia.
,, M. B. Watcha.	,, A. R. Driver.
,, H. D. Gimi.	,, M. J. Dastur.
,, B. F. Mehta.	,, R. A. Wagle.
,, Jeh. D. Antia.	,, J. Oomrigar.
,, D. N. Vakil.	,, B. K. Dadachanji.

(Hony. Secy. & Treas.)

This year saw preparations for a visit to Kathiawar, which can boast of good cricket, since the accession of H. H. the Jam-saheb to the *gadi* of Nawanagar. But a month before our departure, a severe outbreak of plague visited that province, which led to the more advisable plan of abandoning the tour in that direction. It was after this that an idea struck those responsible

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for the arrangement of the tour, of going once more to Karachi, to recover the 'ashes,' which we had lost the year before. The idea seemed to find favour with the majority of the members; though looking to our previous experience of the matting pitch, it would have been preferable to avoid the place. Apart from that reason, a variation in the tour programme has much to commend in it and the repetition of a place or even of a province within an interval of three years should strictly be avoided, if one expects the tour to turn out a complete success.

But it would be unkind to saddle Dadachanji with the blame of our failure there, for to do him justice and to refute the unwarrantable and malafide criticism of the correspondents in our College magazine, it may be stated that the team that went to try and wrest the lost 'ashes' was a redoubtable lot, in fact an execellent combination, strong enough to meet any team on equal terms, one, on which we could reasonably rely to retain our cherished reputation under normal circumstances.

On the 18th December, we sailed from Bombay by the S.S. 'Lahasa.' After doubling the lighthouse, we entered the high seas and as usual the feeling of uneasiness began to creep over the countenaces of our sickly sailors. The members of our team, otherwise so jovial and energetic on land, seem to develope a feeling of moroseness and gloom, while on the water. For an Elph. tourist the sea has no attraction. He hates being over water and with reasons too, for his condition is very pitiable and far from having an easy mind, dread lurks in his heart when he sees his fellows succumbing to sea sickness, that his turn is not far off. Next day we touched the fine port of Porebunder. We did not alight here, though we appreciated the halt, as it offered a few hours' respite to our unsettled stomachs, while the numerous barges, dancing on the crest of the high waves, afforded a variety to the eyes, which were tired of the monotonous spectacle of the sea and sky.

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On the 20th December, we sighted Karachi. We were lodged at the Karachi Parsee Institute and those who were in charge of our arrangements, had studied our comforts well. There was no lack of cheer and pastimes to while away our idle hours. Besides cricket, our 'globe trotters' had a multitude of amusements. There were tennis courts, card and billiard tables at our disposal and and a swimming bath within easy reach and an excellent team of camels to please our equestrians.

On the 21st December, we played the first match against the N. W. Ry. team on their own ground. But their cricket ground can be called so by courtesy only. The matting was laid on rough hard soil, while there was not a glint of turf to relieve the whitish monotony of the outfield, nor any shady background to mitigate the powerful glare, which proved very trying to our eyes, accustomed as we were to play under the sombre light of the monsoon season.

Winning the toss, our opponents opened badly; 15-3-5. But Fardy came on to the scene and completely changed the aspect of the game. On both the tours he played several innings against us, but not one of them was immune from a chance. His hits seemed to carry some hidden magic about them. Being allowed by our fielders to settle down, he gave a magnificent exhibition of high and powerful hitting. Throughout his career our fielders were kind to him and with benefits of further chances at 43, 61, 79, 93, he eventually carried his bat for a lucky 101; an interesting innings though not quite first class. Luxmon too enjoyed the benefit of our bad fielding ; but from the cricket point of view he played a better class of game than Fardy and scored 73 in decent style. Their innings was full of records. Fardy's 101 was the first century scored against us ; 369, the highest total ever registered by our opponents; 30, the largest number of catches ever missed by us in an innings ; 8, the highest number of bowlers ever tried by us.

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Their huge total had a deterrent effect on our spirits and the beginning of our innings was a fiasco. Semper bowled like a demon and swept everything before him like a veritable tornado. When stumps were drawn the board read cheerlessly 40-10-3.

Next day we made a more determined effort to better our doings. But from so ghastly a start it was hopeless to recover. Wodehouse, Mody and Jam. Antia did their best to offer some resistence to their bowling and though Semper was not put on, we failed to score sufficiently to minimise our great defeat. The Ry. team simply annihilated us, seeing that they scored 369 and won easily by 171 runs with an innings to spare.

N. W. Ry.

1st Innings.	
D. Judah, b Driver	0
L. Semper, b Antia	33
F. Mendez, b Driver	1
Capt. Freeland, b Driver	5
H. Fardy, b Chothia	101
L. Green, b Driver	24
A. Rollins, c Driver, b Wodehouse	51
F. Rollins, b Antia	5
A. Luxmon, retired	73
Kallocram, c Mody, b Driver	48
N. Mobed, not out	0
Extras	28
Total	369

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Vakil	16	3	56	0
Driver	27	3	115	5
Wagle	7	0	40	0
Wodehouse	6	0	24	1
Antia	18	3	62	2
Chothia	6	0	21	1
Dastur	3	0	14	0
Mehta	3	0	9	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Chothia, b Semper	1	c Luxmon, b Mobed	7
A. Driver, b Semper	4	c Rollins, b Fardy	0
Jam. Antia, b Semper	2	c Judah, b Kallooram	21
B. Mehta, retired	0	b Mobed	9
E. Wodehouse, b Semper	0	st Judah, b Freeland	35
M. Dastur, b Semper	0	c Rollins, b Mobed	18
J. Mody, b Freeland	9	b Mobed	31
R. Wagle, b Semper	1	b Freeland	16

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Jeh, Antia, b Semper	...	...	13	st Judah, b Freeland	...	...	4
J. Oomrigar, not out	...	...	3	b Mobed	...	...	0
D. Vakil, c Luxmon, b Semper		...	0	not out	...	..	6
	Extras	...	7		Extras	...	11
	Total	...	40		Total	...	158

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Semper	8	4	9	8	...	...	...	...
Freeland	8	1	24	1	6	0	17	3
Green	...	...	...	...	8	0	32	0
Fardy	...	..	...	...	14	2	18	1
Mobed	...	...	...	...	14	2	54	5
Kallooram	...	...	...	...	6	1	10	1
Mandez	...	...	...	...	3	0	16	0

On the 24th we played our second match against the Karachi Parsee Institute. Our ranks were very much strengthened by the contingent of Watcha and Gimi, who had arrived by the overland route a day before. The Parsees had practically the same team that played against us in 1905. The whole side was dismissed for less than 100. Our fielding was quite upto the mark and greatly helped Watcha in bagging 6 for 56. The Parsees were without a fast bowler and this more than anything else accounted for our good total of 165, which gave us a lead of 69 over our opponents. On the ensuing day our wretched fielding again let us down. P. Dastur, who went with the Parsees to England and a dangerous man while at the wickets, was let off three times; while N. Dinshaw, who knows well how to utilize a new life, knocked up 58 in free style. The first wicket fell for 102, constituting a record on tour. At 212-6-9 the Parsee captain, Dastur, most sportingly declared their innings and left us an hour and quarter to score 144. History repeats itself. Perhaps this very belief hugged us on to repeat our last year's performance and to snatch a runaway victory in the nick of time. Wodehouse, the last year's hero was again on the spot. He and Mody fully realised the situation and began laying on to the bowling in fine hitting style. It was no time for half

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measures, so both went in for hitting pure and simple. Wodehouse made several gigantic hits, one of which would have gone clean out of most grounds. The score rose rapidly and within an hour 115 were hoisted on the board. But there was a lull in our stormy score ; for Mody's innings which was greatly instrumental in the compilation of our handsome total, was brought to a close at 54. Gimi was next in and even at his best he is not a good hitter. He however entered thoroughly into the spirit of the game and knowing his defect allowed his *vis-a-vis* to have as much of the bowling as possible. Wodehouse punished the bowlers more vigorously than ever and with some brilliant hitting and short runs, we soon approached their score and closing time. A run was wanted and the last ball to go. The excitement was intense. The hearts ceased to beat for a few seconds ; but a loud cheer rent the air as the wicket-keeper let the ball go for a bye. Wodehouse thinking that two more for victory were wanted, went in for a hopeless run and got run out, only to find to his delight that the match of which he was the hero had already been won. But here we may fitly express our admiration of the generous way in which the Parsee Captain declared their innings and the sporting manner in which the Parsees there bore the defeat. The true spirit of the game induces generous acknowledgment and the whole crowd at the Parsee pavilion cheered to the echo Wodehouse, who had brought about their signal defeat. We won by 7 wickets and 1 run.

KARACHI PARSEE INSTITUTE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Minwalla, c Gimi, b Watcha ...	4	b Driver	13
P. Dastur. c Mody, b Vakil	29	b Watcha	41
H. Dinshaw, b Watcha	2	b Driver	29
N. Dinshaw, b Watcha	4	c Wagle, b Watcha ..	58
J. Minwala, c Chothia b Watcha ...	2	c Wodehouse, b Driver ...	5
G. Dinshaw, c Dastur, b Vakil... ...	6	not out	27
B. Gadially, st Antia, b Watcha ...	21	b Driver	15
B. Mehta, c Wodehouse, b Vakil ...	3	not out	7

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D. Jagos, b Watcha	4						
B. Mehta, not out	10	did not bat					
B. Golwala, c Wagle, b Vakil	8						
Extras	3			Extras	17		
Total ...	96			Total (6 wkts.) ..	212		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Vakil	19	2	37	4	13	1	50	0
Watcha	19	2	56	6	21	5	35	2
Driver	...	...	...	...	26	3	93	4
Antia	..	...	...	...	4	1	10	0
Wagle	...	...	...	...	2	0	7	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
J. Mody, b N. Dinshaw	40	c Mehta, b N. Dinshaw ...	59
S. Chothia, c Gadially, b N. Dinshaw...	34	c Mehta, b Gadially ...	7
H. Gimi, c G. Dinshaw, b N. Dinshaw..	23	not out	13
E. Wodehouse, c Minwala, b N. Dinshaw.	0	run out	64
Jam. Antia, b Gadially	16		
A. Driver, b N. Dinshaw	0		
R. Wagle, c N. Dinshaw, b Gadially	23		
M. Dastur, c H. Dinshaw, b N. Dinshaw.	1	did not bat.	
Jeh. Antia, c Gadially, b N Dinshaw ...	19		
M. Watcha, c & b Gadially	0		
D. Vakil, not out	4		
Extras	5	Extras ...	1
Total ...	165	Total (3 wikts) ...	144

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W	O.	M.	R.	W.
Gadially	19	3	54	3	16	2	58	1
N. Dinshaw	23	3	64	7	13	1	66	1
Golwala	6	0	36	0	3	0	19	0
Mehta	2	0	6	0	..	..	...	...

Bad fielding and matting pitches were mainly responsible for our failure at Karachi; but on this occasion we courted further disaster by playing too many matches at a stretch. The original programme provided a sufficient test for our skill and muscles, but during the course of its operation, two more fixtures were

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added to it, so that we had 6 matches to play during the short period of 12 days, with only 3 spare days to recuperate our energy and muscles.

On the 26th we played the first of these two matches against the N. W. Ry. (Lahore) Team, who like ourselves, had come to Karachi for cricket. The opponents were not quite strong. Their bowling and fielding were good but in batting they needed a lot of practice and knowledge of the game to bring them up to the requisite standard. Mody played a grand innings for 79 and showed that he had not lost his old form ; while Gimi the newly constituted disciple of Aesculapius, was on a smooth way towards his century when he was judged L. B. W. But this match unearthed Driver as a valuable addition to the stock of tour bowlers and brought to light many of his bowling virtues. He is an unassuming young man with abilities well above the average ; a medium pace bowler, with a high action and a very deceptive off break, which is chiefly successful in disposing of troublesome players. We won the match easily by an innings and 159 runs.

A. Driver

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		Bowling Analysis.				
J Mody, c Hyat, b Motiram	79		O.	M.	R.	W.
M Watcha, c Gopaldas, b Sahibdyal ...	1	Motiram	29	0	95	4
Jam. Antia, b Motiram	2	Sahibdyal	11	0	37	2
H. Gimi, lbw Beliram	71	Md. Hussein	5	0	22	0
S. Chothia, b Motiram	4	Beli Ram	14	2	44	2
A. Driver, c & b Motiram	0					
M. Dastur, c Mowlabux, b Motiram ...	7					
R. Wagle, b Motiram	9					
Jeh. Antia, run out	4					
J. Oomrigar, not out	14					
D. Vakil, not out	7					
Extras	20					
Total (9 wikts.)	218					

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N. W. Ry. (Lahore).

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Gopaldas, st Oomrigar, b Watcha ...	1	b Driver	5
Md. Hyat, c Antia, b Vakil	2	c Jam. Antia, b Driver ...	0
Md. Hussein, b Vakil	0	c Oomrigar, b Driver ...	0
Moti Ram, b Vakil	0	b Antia	3
Mowla Bux, b Vakil	4	c and b Driver	2
Hebebullah, b Vakil	10	c Vakil, b Driver	1
Sahibdyal, c Antia, b Watcha ...	2	b Driver	1
Kuram Chand, c Chothia, b Watcha ...	0	b Driver	4
Khushi Ram, not out	3	b Driver	6
Sam Das, c Vakil, b Watcha	2	not out	0
Beli Ram, b Vakil	6	c Jam. Antia, b Driver ...	0
Extras	5	Extras.	2
Total ...	35	Total ...	24

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Vakil	6	0	23	6	...	...	...	...
Watcha	5	1	7	4	...	...	...	...
Driver	...	...	...	...	8	0	13	9
Antia	...	..	..	...	7	1	9	1

On the evening of the 26th we were invited to dinner at the Zoroastrian Club, where an excellent gathering and distinguished company had assembled. Our 'off' days were full of entertainments, We were so to say killed with kindness by our friends at the Parsee Institute. Mirth, conviviality and puddings formed the staple of our entertainments. Their luncheon table was a specialty. Every dish which culinary art could produce was before us. But the king of the day was the pudding. We could see faces lit up with delight, at the entry of the great monarch crowned with various designs and exhaling perfumes of various essences, which made the nostrils of the child-like gourmands dilate like those of a war horse. The Parsees knew us as great fielders (ironically); while we knew them as 'great pudding eaters.' We particularly remember an old gentleman raising a hillock of that delicious dish and being asked the reason for creating that

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entrenchment replied that he had not partaken of *dhan sak* (Parsee curry and rice). This is however the general system, there of helping oneself to the dish and to refuse to partake of it would be to create regretful surprise and to play the sorry part of a joy-killer.

On the 28th we played the first of the two matches against the World (All Karachi Team). On this occasion we took some tentative measures to drive away the incubus of bad catching. Glue is not permissible, but our fielders tried to ensure the safety of catches by a free application of vaseline. But alas ! those softened palms rarely came into action ; for in most cases through the powerful glare we got the ball on the finger tips and sometimes not even there. Watcha bowled capitally and though several chances were given he never lost heart but pegged on in his usual persistent cheerful style. H. Dinshaw was again sickening at the wickets and we would have welcomed a hundred from Fardy or Green to 25 off him ; for he is a poky type of batsman that kills the heart and spirit of the bowlers. Patience, safety and caution are his watchwords. Risk, haste and rashness are alien elements to him. In batting we again fell off ; for we never felt 'at home' on matting when Semper was bowling. Gimi alone defended his wickets courageously and scored 40. But the feature of our game was the plucky innings of young Oomrigar, who curiously upheld that Semper was not what he was painted and maintained both by action and words that he would hit and never fall a victim to his bowling. He went in when Semper was in full glory and knotched up a spirited 25 in fine style.

With a lead of 45, the Karachi team opened their second innings. The start was good; 5 for 146. Vakil however on this occasion realised the high hopes formed of his bowling on matting and bowled splendidly and the rest of the wickets were taken at the cost of 18 runs. Vakils performance of 5 for 15 was the best bowlin g feat of the tour. But our fielding was as

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Jeh. Antia. A. Driver. Jam. Antia. R. Wagle.

TOUR TEAM 1906.

S. Chothia. H. Gimi. J. Mody. E. Wodehouse. M. Watcha. B. Dadachanji. B. Mehta.
J. Oomrigar. (Capt.) M. Dastur.

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usual bad and no less than eight catches were let off even during this innings. Our total number of missed catches amounted to 65.

In our second innings Chothia came off with a brilliant 71. His neat cutting and leg glance were simply superb and though he found Semper difficult to handle, yet on the whole he played an easy and graceful innings. At one stage, while he was in, we looked like routing our opponents; but the chance went when he was abjudged run out, though the decision that gave him out was a very doubtful one. It was an even and interesting match, honours being easy when stumps were drawn.

ALL KARACHI TEAM.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
P. Dastur, c Mody, b Watcha	...	29	c Wagle, b Driver... ...	21
D. Judah, c Vakil, b Watcha ...	...	12	not out	0
L. Semper, c Vakil, b Driver ...	...	15	b Driver	30
H. Dinshaw, b Driver	...	27	c Driver, b Vakil	33
H. Thompson, b Antia	...	20	c Wagle, b Vakil	24
L. Green, c Jam. Antia, b Watcha	...	32	c Driver, b Vakil	25
N. Dinshaw, b Driver	...	1	b Vakil	2
J. Minwala, b Vakil	...	28	b Driver	7
H. Fardy, not out	...	9	c Wodehouse, b Vakil ...	1
B. Gadially, c Jam. Antia, b Watcha ...		3	c Watcha, b Driver ...	3
Capt. Freeland, did not bat ...	...	0	c Omrigar, b Driver ...	5
Extras ...	...	11	Extras	13
Total	...	187	Total ...	164

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Driver	20	1	67	3	18	2	56	5
Watcha	29	11	33	4	12	0	49	0
Vakil	21	4	55	1	7	1	15	5
Antia	8	2	21	1	9	0	31	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Chothia, c N. Dinshaw, b Gadially		17	run out	71
E. Wodehouse, b Gadially ...	...	12	b Semper	3
J. Mody, c Gadially, b Semper ...		0	b Gadially	14
Jam. Antia, c Green, b Semper ...		0	b Semper	0

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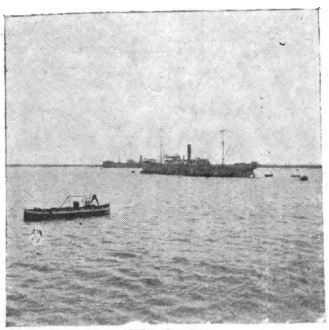
H. Gimi, c Dastur, b Semper	40	c Freeland, b N. Dinshaw	21
A. Driver, b Gadially	0	c Judah, b Freeland ...	3
R. Wagle, b Gadially	2	b Semper	0
J. Oomrigar, b Gadially	25	not out	19
Jeh. Antia, b Gadially, ...	2	not out	11
M. Watcha, c Dinshaw, b Semper ...	2	did not bat	
D. Vakil, not out	2		
Extras ...	16	Extras ...	17
Total ...	118	Total (7 wkts.) ...	159

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W
Semper	17	2	38	5		15	4	41	3
Gadially	17	2	41	5		15	1	45	1
N. Dinshaw	0	0	11	0		9	1	14	1
Freeland	4	1	6	0		4	1	14	1
Green	3	1	6	0		4	0	16	0
Fardy						2	0	12	0

To complete the long list of entertainments, a fishing excursion was arranged by the Parsee Institute. The day was an ideal one for sailing. The pleasant and merry company left Karachi for the Manora Isles. But it was only an apology for fishing; for out of a team of 40 persons and at the expense of two basketful of baits, only one member succeeded in hooking a prong. The result was not at all surprising; for instead of watching the bait, our eyes were directed rather to the hampers which presented an array of bottle-necks shining with their leaden cravats that would have dazzled even, the most ascetic anchorite. The sea was very calm and we had quite a pleasant day with merry company and good cheer.



Harbour

After our the indecisive and even match with the All Karachi Team, the return match against them was looked forward to with great interest by the cricketers of Karachi. Prof. Wodehouse

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returned to Bombay a day before the match and the captaincy devolved on J. Mody. The match came off on the 31st Dec. and 1st Jan; but the opening day proved quite a nasty one for cricket. A strong and chilly wind was blowing, which made the ball swerve and curl in the air so as to disconcert the batsmen and fielders in their judgment. Moreover the game itself had to be stopped for several minutes, while a dust storm swept by the field, half blinding our eyes and filling our ears and nostrils with the silvery sand. Under normal circumstances, it is better to bat first on a matting pitch, but under peculiar circumstances in which we were playing, it would have been wiser to put them in. Our captain won the toss and elected to bat. We did not like the judgment but consoled ourselves with the cricket logic that the captain was the best man to judge and his orders must therefore be obeyed. The effect of the bad judgment was soon revealed. The ball described angles and parabolas of all sorts and non-plussed us with its various kinetic puzzles. Mody started fairly well but the rest of the wickets went down with a rattle and with the help of Mr. Extras, who provided the highest individual score of the side, our total reached a respectable margin of 147 runs. But the worst event of our innings was the severe injury of Driver, who was rendered *hors de combat* for the rest of the tour.

The excellent start they made in response to our total soon wore out our spirit. P. Dastur played a perfect and true English game with correct strokes all round the wicket. He scored 40 though he owed much to the clemency of our fielders. Fardy was more vigorous than ever and skied and skied, fully knowing that he bore a charmed life, and was not to be caught. Our bowlers were mercilessly punished and ridiculously easy catches were missed to the great amusement of the spectators. At one stage our bowlers were so tired and our catching so hopelessly uncertain, that it was doubtful whether we would at all get them out. Our state on field was a picture of despair and utter helplessness and we heaved a sigh of relief when the last wicket fell at 262.

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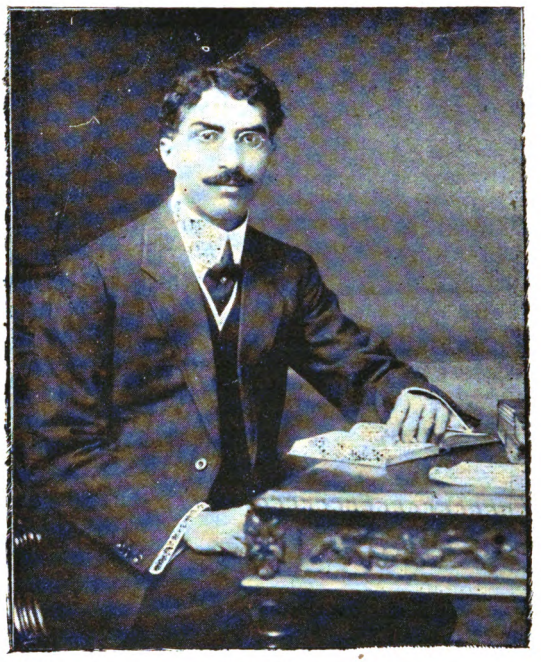
It was perhaps the worst performance ever made by the Elphs. on the field; but there are some extenuating circumstances which might afford a clue to distant readers to know how badly we were handicapped by wind, weather and glare. Jeh. Antia was on the long 'on,' while his younger brother was on the 'off.' A skier was shot by Fardy and as it soared up, its direction was exactly between the two brothers or perhaps a little inclined to the elder. 'Mine' cried the elder and he flew at the catch but embraced air. The ball curled and curled away from him and fell only a few yards from the younger brother, who had stood still at his post.



J. Mody

Dreary is the tale to be told of our second innings; we went in dejected with 115 in arrears, with the ghaunt and miserable picture of our fielding performance staring before our eyes, with Driver and Antia injured and with the rest of team dog-tired. Gimi and Jam. Antia stood against the bowling for a while but the rest made a deplorable show. We lost by an innings and 19 runs.

It was not the great defeat but the way in which we lost is to be lamented. It was an ill-starred day for our tour.

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Our mishaps while in the field rather than our inferior cricket accounted for the catastrophe. If our fielding had been good and conditions of ground and weather favourable, the Karachi team might have found us a better match. But 'might have' is a speculative term ; it is futile to ruminate over it.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
J. Mody, c N. Dinshaw, b Mobed ...	31	c Green, b Gadially ...	7
Jam. Antia, c Judah, b Semper ...	5	c Gadially, b Fardy ...	27
S. Chothia, c Judah, b Semper ...	13	b Semper	5
H. Gimi, c N. Dinshaw, b Mobed ...	5	c N. Dinshaw, b Fardy ...	31
J. Oomrigar, b N. Dinshaw	2	c Semper, b N. Dinshaw ...	6
A. Driver, retired	16	did not bat	
R. Wagle, b N. Dinshaw	0	c Judah, b Semper... ...	0
M. Dastur, b Mobed	3	c Dastur, b N. Dinshaw ...	7
Jeh. Antia, not out	17	c N. Dinshaw, b Fardy ..	0
M. Watcha, b Gadially	0	b Fardy	1
D. Vakil, b Mobed, ...	23	not out	5
Extras	32	Extras	7
Total ..	147	Total ...	96

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Semper	13	4	36	2	17	3	32	2
Gadially	12	2	23	1	6	1	14	1
Mobed	17	1	44	4	4	0	20	0
Dinshaw	5	0	12	2	4	1	11	2
Fardy	...	...	...	...	7	0	12	4

ALL KARACHI TEAM.

1st Innings.		Bowling Analysis.				
L. Semper, b Vakil	9		O.	M.	R.	W.
P. Dastur, b Vakil	40	Watcha ...	30	4	110	2
H. Dinshaw, c Oomriger, b Wagle.	14	Vakil	14	1	26	3
L. Green, c Gimi, b Watcha ..	18	Antia	6	0	18	0
N. Dinshaw, b Wagle	31	Wagle ...	31	8	92	5
A. Luxmon, c Mody, b Wagle ...	33					
H. Fardy, b Watcha	49					

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D. Judah, b Wagle	0
A. Wilson, c & b Wagle	18
B. Gadially, c Jam Antia, b Vakil.	20
N. Mobed, not out...	14
Extras	16
Total ...	262

We were now fed up with cricket; and with all the nausea of full 9 days' matches, we turned up with a heavy heart for our newly arranged fixture against the Bora Institute. It was a day's match and ended in an even draw. But the salient feature of the match was the beautiful batting performance of the Bora crack, Gullia, who in the style and form he was batting then, could with justice claim a top place in the All India Team. His drives were perfect, his cutting clean and crisp and his defence good enough to set at naught any good bowling. He carried his bat through for a highly appreciated score of 71. Our total number of missed catches during this tour reached a round total of 90; Chothia and Jeh. Antia, two of our brilliant fielders, being the chief offenders.

ELPH. COLLEGE.		BORA INSTITUTE.	
1st Innings.		1st Innings.	
J. Mody, b Hasanaly	62	A. Gullia, not out	77
Jam. Antia, b Alibhai	8	A. Mohomedali, b Wagle ...	0
H. Gimi, b Hasanaly	44	E. Hasanali, b Antia	48
S. Chothia, c Noorbhai, b Hasanaly	47	H. Darugar, c Mody b Vakil ...	2
R. Wagle, b Hasanaly	0	G. Alibhai, run not	38
M. Dastur, b Darugar	1	G. Mamooji b Wagle	0
J. Oomrigar, c Gullia, b Hasanaly	6	E. Noorbhoy, not out	0
Jeh. Antia, b Alibhai	6	Hoosain	
M. Watcha, b Alibhai	0	E. Moosaji } did not bat.	
D. Vakil, run out	18	E. Abdulally }	
B. Dadachanji, not out ...	0	A. Alibhoy	
Extras ...	5	Extras ...	2
Total ...	197	Total (5 wkts.) ...	167

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Darugar	16	0	64	1	Wagle	9	0	33	2
Alibhoy	13	0	47	3	Watcha	8	0	24	0
Gullia	4	0	18	0	Vakil	10	0	51	1
Hasanaly	16	2	63	5	Antia	14	0	44	1
					Chothia	2	0	13	0

After our games with the various teams, we came to the rather obvious conclusion that cricket at Karachi was a great deal better than anybody at first sight could expect. In expressing this opinion, the statement is based on the experience of the team on their own matting ground and under climatic conditions, which are peculiar to that province only and which are quite different from those obtainable at Bombay. A combined team of Karachi on their own ground would be a match for any of the good teams in Bombay, though it is doubtful whether they would be so successful on the kind of pitch we have in Bombay during the monsoon; for to quote one instance, H. Dinshaw who could defy any sort of bowling on the matting pitch at Karachi, proved a miserable failure, while playing for the Sindh College in Bombay in 1906. Moreover the doings of Semper and N. Dinshaw in the triangular contests were not so bright as to induce one to take the optimistic view that a Karachi team could have a successful session at Bombay. But of all the players, we are one and all in praise of Semper, the Ry. bowler, who more than anyone else wrought damage in our camp. We had a good experience of his bowling and found that he was a veritable 'demon' on matting.

After a halt of two days we left Karachi. It was indeed with deep regret that we parted from so many kind friends at the Parsee Institute. It would be hard to draw a picture of their hospitality and kindness. Where everybody from young to old was kind, it would be invidious to mention names; but one cannot help mentioning a few; Messrs. F. Pantheky, Nusserwanji Mehta and Golwala, and our thanks in particular are due to them. We were dined and lunched and very hospitably entertained and all the

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good friends vied with one another in giving us a really merry time which we shall never forget.

On the 7th Jan. 1907, we landed at Bombay and completed the most unsuccessful of all our tours. To say that it has been the worst on record, alike in sight seeing, in bad batting and in total absence of good fielding, is to assert mere truism. The conditions under which cricket is played there, are certainly not very inviting, nor is there anything in the city, except the kind hospitality of the Parsees, to attract our team again. It will indeed be long before another visit to the scene of our disasters is contemplated; for the present, it is pasted with one of our artistic tour labels 'Not wanted on journey.'

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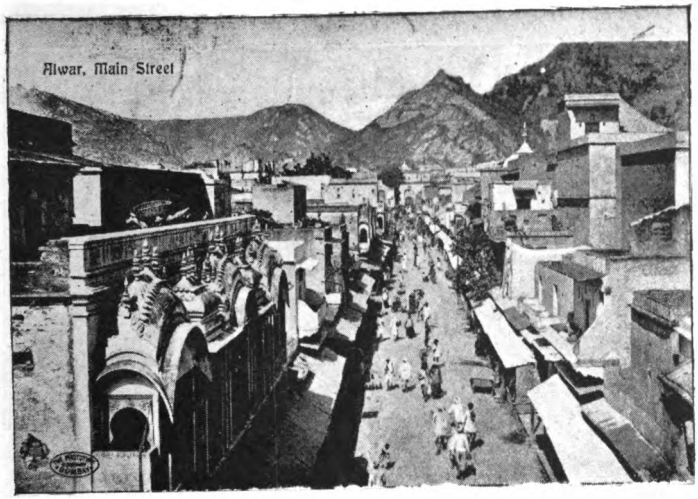

Alwar

CHAPTER VI.

The Northern Tour.

1908.

Period 23 days. Miles 2786.

TEAM.

Mr. M.B. Watcha. (Capt.)	Mr. F. S. Doctor.
Prof. P. B. Watcha.	,, A. R. Driver.
Dr. H. D. Gimi.	,, R. A. Wagle.
Mr. P. H. Davar.	,, M. J. Dastur.
,, M. R. Parekh.	,, N. P. Engineer.
,, B. F. Mehta.	,, N. C. Bharucha.
,, H. F. Mulla.	,, A. P. Sabawala.
,, Jam. D. Antia.	,, B. K. Dadachanji.
,, Jeh. D. Antia.	(Hony. Sec. & Treasr.)

This tour was one of the most ambitious and interesting of its kind; our hosts and antagonists on this occasion being the prominent native states of Northern India. We started amid gloomy prognostications, for the team, it must be admitted was

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not the strongest that the college could put forth. The bowling combination was perfect and gave promise of doing good work, but the batting was weak, weaker than our early surmises had led us to believe. But a secretary is not omniscient either as regards the strength and formation of the team or as to the success it is likely to achieve, and whatever problematic results, he may base on the calculus of probability, get very much modified when untoward difficulties and incidents crop up before the team starts. But to an unconcerned outsider these difficulties are unknown. The old unmuzzled watch-dogs of students' rights broke out afresh with their jarring notes and desired that the secretary should not run a tour unless he was sure of winning all the matches arranged during its period. We often hear about the difficulty of putting a quart measure into a pint pot but here our 'armchair critics' expected a pint measure to do the work of a gallon. Surely it is too much to expect the secretary, ill supplied with the requisite sinews of war, to run an annual tour, to pick the best of places and teams and above all to assure the success of the venture before the commencement of its operations; and nothing indeed is more detrimental to the good old game than the desire to attach undue importance to the result. If one can tell every time with certainty the result of the game before hand, then that game is certainly not cricket. And even admitting that it is possible to do so with a strong team in normal circumstances, it is at least very difficult to gauge the success of a team battling under unknown conditions, especially on a tour where circumstances are at times very hostile and uncompromising. If every team were to take the field with the intention not to lose, then cricket would cease to be played. There are lean and fat years and one does not see the good of not running a tour simply because the team happens to be weaker than those of the previous years.

Our batting prospects were not bright and whatever little brightness they had, was wiped of by the refusal of Chothia and Mody to undertake the tour at the last moment. A last chance was

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tried to animate the fading batting strength by enlisting D. Kapadia, as a prospective Elph. Principal Covernton however showed his disinclination to enrol him before the opening of the term ; but very sympathetically remarked that he would like to see a pure Elph. team losing all the matches of the tour rather than see it successful with the aid of alien talents. Only 48 hours before the day of departure, it was finally decided to brave the adventure in scorn of the consequences, and to keep alive the old and excellent spirit of undertaking the tour for the game's sake, which has always been the characteristic of Elph. cricket.

On the 12th December, we left Colaba for Bharatpur by the same route over which we had travelled in 1901. It was the same old journey, dreary and conservative. We transhipped at Bandikui at one in the morning of the 14th and arrived at Bharatpur during the small hours of the same day. In cold and darkness we drove straight off to the cricket field where a comfortable camp had been pitched for us by the State. Finding it hard to recall our much disturbed sleep, we strolled about aimlessly on the field and inspected the pitch, concluding from the overnight dew that it would prove a veritable 'bowler's paradise '—a surmise which afterwards turned out to be quite correct.

We started the match on the same day. The Bharatpur State had put out a pretty strong XI, containing some excellent bowlers especially Dwarkanath Kunzroo and Mughni, both of whom bowled with terrific effect. But the match proved very disappointing from the cricket point of view and provided the worst exposition of the batting abilities of the contending teams. The reason was obvious. Both sides had a strong bowling combination, which aided by the tricky pitch proved disastrous to the weak and indifferent batting. In the first innings we were only 6 in arrears. The restless night had a deterrent effect on us and with 40 minutes only, we thought of playing out time and doing better on the ensuing day. As we opened our second innings the state band

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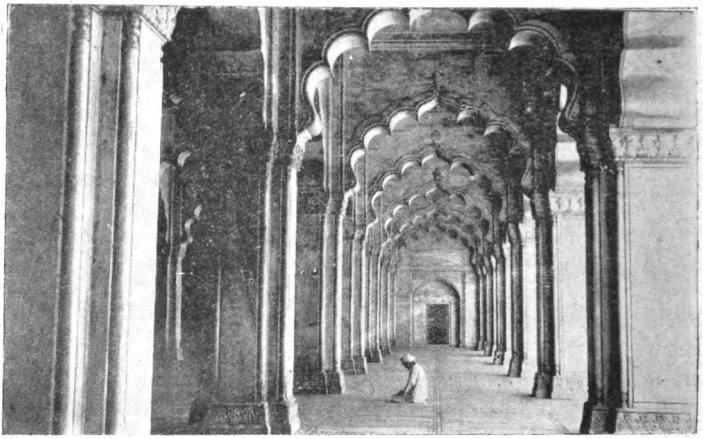
played 'Lo, the Conquering Hero Comes,' though the proper tune would have been the 'Dead March in Saul,' as we collapsed most frightfully and failed to survive till the next day; Mulla's 23



Moti Masjid, Agra

being a varitable oasis in our barren innings of 48. The match was however not one-sided as the results would lead readers to suppose and proved quite exciting towards the end. Though they required 43 to secure a win, they showed unmistakable signs of a speedy collapse at any moment. But the chance of causing a panic in their ranks was gone when Davar missed an easy chance at point. The hat-trick by Kunzroo, the first and the only one in our tour history, was the only redeeming feature of this poor match. We lost by 5 wickets.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Jam. Artia, lbw Kunzroo	... ...	21	c & b Mughni	3
B. Mehta, run out	... ...	1	b Kunzroo	0
R. Wagle, c Mohsin, b Kunzroo	...	9	b Kunzroo	0
H. Gimi, b Mughni	... ...	4	b Kunzroo	0
A. Driver, run out	... ...	1	b Mughni	0
H. Mulla, c Mohsin, b Mughni...	...	18	c Burkitt, b Mughni . .	23
M. Dastur, b Kunzroo	... ...	5	b Mughni	4
Jeh. Antia, b Mughni	... ...	2	b Kunzroo	0
N. Bharucha, not out	... ...	3	not out	8

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P. Davar, b Kunzroo	0	b Kunzroo	0
M. Watcha, c Burkitt, b Mughni ...	0	b Kunzroo	6
Extras ...	3	Extras	4
Total ...	67	Total ...	48

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Kunzroo	14	2	38	4	8	1	20	6
Mughni	14	0	26	4	7	1	24	4
Mohsin	...	...	...	...	1	1	0	0

BHARATPUR STATE CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Shabieh Ahmed, b Driver	13	lbw Watcha...	10
Ali Hyder, run out	0	c Wagle, b Driver	5
Mughni, b Watcha	8	b Watcha	5
T. Angles, c Dastur, b Watcha ...	0	b Watcha	2
N. Rashid-ud-din, c Mehta, b Driver...	9	not out	0
Maharaj Narayen, b Driver	7	c Jam. Antia, b Driver ...	15
D. Kunzroo, b Driver	0	not out	7
A. Burkitt, c Daver, b Watcha ...	9		
M. Usiff, c Jam. Antia, b Driver ...	7	did not bat	
M. Mohsin, not out	14		
Ali Ausat, b Watcha	4		
Extras	2	Extras	0
Total ...	73	Total (5 wkts.)	44

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. Watcha	14	2	28	4	10	1	23	3
A. Driver	10	1	23	5	10	3	21	2
Jeh. Antia	4	0	20	0	...	...	...	...

We left Bharatpur for Agra on the night of the 15th—a miserable and memorable night of much rough toil in darkness and cold. Owing to the neglect of those responsible for our entertainment, we had no men to carry our luggage from the carts to our reserved carriages in the siding at a considerable distance across the rails. There were no light and lamps and no coolies at the station and there was no help but to carry our heavy trunks on our

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shoulders and to stumble across the rails in the dark, expecting every moment to be run over by some stray train. Circumstances terribly alter positions ; for the light of the morn revealed that one of the most dignified members of the team, whose identity shall remain concealed, had mounted on his shoulder the baggage of our Gymkhana boy, who through fear of being overworked had been enjoying a delightful smoke in some cosy corner.

The morning of the 16th saw us at Agra, the stately city of the imperial Moguls ; the city of palatial tombs and tomb-like palaces, all silent and deserted. We were put up in the residential quarters of the Agra College. The thing that struck us most about the College was the vast amount of space and large number of buildings at its disposal. One can have an idea of the compound of the residency from the fact that certain essential offices and closets attached to it, were at a distance of a furlong from the blocks and had best be approached on a bicycle. It was in sad and humiliating contrast to our college hostels, where sitting rooms and sleeping rooms and reading rooms and cook rooms and bath rooms and stables, stand in close uncomfortable contiguity and in narrow compass. The better part of the day was spent in seeing the various monuments and so absorbed we were in admiring the delightful Taj that we inadvertently omitted to partake of our lunch, a rare sacrifice indeed. Surely no more significant tribute could be paid to the stately and lovely Taj than that a team that could boast of some of the hardiest gourmands, should be content to forego a meal for the sake of the feast of beauty and delight, which this royal mausoleum furnished to our eyes and souls.

On the 17th & 18th we played our match. The match had drawn much attention, for it was advertised, in spite of the inclusion of Wagle, that we were the Parsee team from Bombay. In consequence we loomed largely in the eyes of the spectators who had paid for the privilege of seeing and applauding our leather hunting. The Agra College team was strong and included Shafkat, Abul Husan and Zianulabad of Aligarh fame and Dwarkanath Kunzroo and

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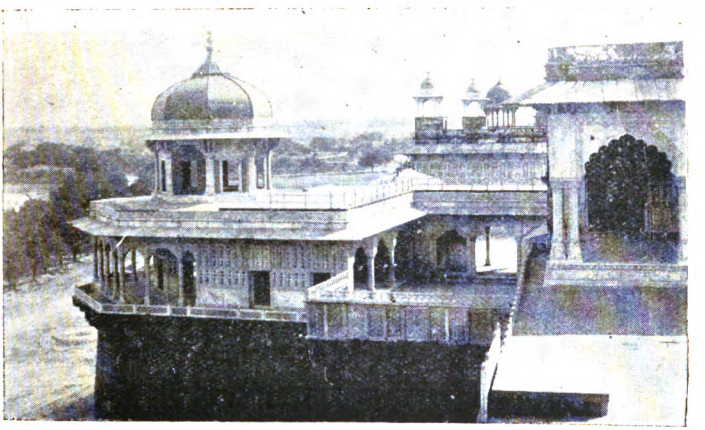
Mughni who had already wrought havoc in our ranks at Bharatpur. The matting pitch on which we had to play was again responsible for our poor score. Parekh, who had joined us at Agra, alone played with confidence and nicely punished Shafkat, who seemed to be in the ascendent. His total of 53 contained 9 boundary strokes, most of which were made on the leg and mid-long. Their score of 261



Diwan-i-Khas, Agra

was chiefly due to the excellent partnership of Shafkat and Zainul, which realised 120 runs. Shafkat played a grand game and showed the ability of a first class bat. His rate of scoring was fast and he hit three 6's and fifteen 4's in his whole innings. He was however greatly assisted in his century by Bharucha, who seemed to be under the frown of ill luck, for he missed Shafkat wherever he was placed on field. Zainul's innings of 62 was quite stylish and graceful and in all probability he would have reached his hundred, had he not met with hard luck in getting run out. But neither the rattling innings of Shafkat nor the graceful play of Zainul provided more fun to the spectators than the acrobatic bowling feat of Sabawala. His fitful and frantic style of bowling and the theatrical swinging of arms and legs, as if in the act of performing Hamlet's soliloquy, sent the whole crowd into roars of laughter. The crowd was in great glee and felt that the *Circuska Tamasha*, as they styled his action,

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was worth all the money they paid at the gate. No doubt his amusing and dramatic style of bowling would make a nice picture for the cinema screen. Tarrant very fitly and humorously remarked later on that he tries to kick his own head.

In the second innings we scored 108 for 5, Mulla and Gimi stayed in for more than an hour and drew the match. Out of 43 overs, 17 were maidens. Mulla made the game a little lively towards the close and sent a splendid sixer off Kanzroo. Gimi was rather unfortunate in getting out to the last ball of the last over.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Jam. Antia, b Abeldelare	2	b Dwarkanath	22
A. Driver, b Dwarkanath	11	b Shafkat	12
M. Parekh, c Zainul, b Shafkat ...	43	b Shafkat	5
H. Gimi, b Abeldelare	0	b Dwarkanath	24
H. Mulla, b Shafkat	1	not out	33
N. Bharucha, st Abeldelare	5	c Zainul, b Dwarkanath ...	9
R. Wagle, b Abeldelare	16	did not bat.	
Jeh. Antia, b Shafkat	4		
M. Dastur, lbw Shafkat	0		
A. Sabawala, b Abeldelare	4		
M. Watcha, not out	0		
Extras	17	Extras	3
Total ...	103	Total (5 wkts.)	108

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Abeldelare	15	7	17	5	8	4	21	0
Shafkat	14	5	44	4	16	6	30	2
Dwarkanath	7	4	13	1	10	2	40	3
Mughni	5	1	12	0	7	4	11	0
Inam	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	0

AGRA COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		Bowling Analysis	O.	M.	R.	W.
Kazam, b Watcha	3					
Shafkat, b Parekh	119	M. Watcha	17	1	54	2
Mughni, run out	3	A. Driver	9	3	23	0

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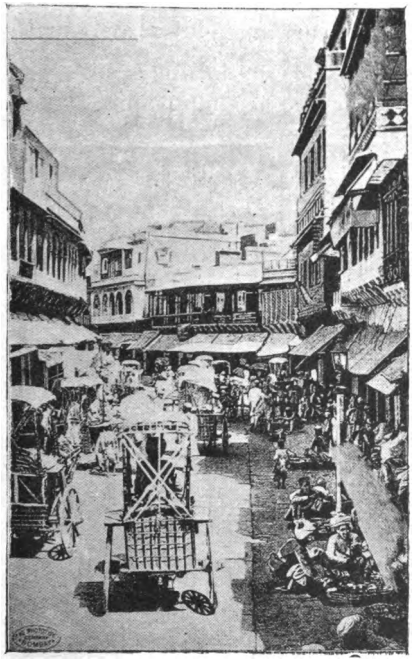
Inam, b Sabawala	16	R. Wagle	7	2	22	0
Zainul, run out	62	Jeh. Antia	5	2	8	0
Abeldelare, b Parekh	17	A. Sabawala	9	2	30	1
Dwarkanath, c & b Parekh	0	M. Dastur	4	1	14	0
Tajjamul, c Dastur, b Parekh	2	M. Parekh	15	2	104	5
Narender, b Watcha	33					
Jaffrey, st Mulla, b Parekh	0					
Zahid, not out	0					
Extras	6					
Total ...	261					

On the night of the 18th, after a hard day's work, we left the beautiful city and arrived on the ensuing morning once more at Delhi, with its thousand memorials, mighty ruins, its forts and mosques, tombs and towns, baths and bazars, its dirty streets and busy shops and rascally shopmen with unclean habits. But to our migrating team this great city with its numerous traditions of history to the days of Mutiny and the Durbar of 1902 was cramped and confined within the limit of a small field where we fought our little Panipat. For owing to the fugitive nature of our programme; we, like the marauding pirates had to fight our fight and march off on the very day we arrived. We do not exaggerate in the least our style of fighting at Delhi; for like soldiers we landed on the platform and after the most superficial toilet, we marched off to the cricket field where we partook of a hurried breakfast and took our position on the field



Street, Delhi

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ready for action. Let those who are disposed to view the shortcomings of our tour with a stern and critical eye bear in mind the circumstances under which matches are played on tour, where the players do not enjoy as in Bombay refreshing sleep and well-stored energy. A day of hard and anxious toil followed by an uneasy and restless night of travel, followed by another day of hard and bustling toil, to be followed by another night of travel. Such are the circumstances under which our tours are performed. Of course they are not narrated by way of excuse for our defeats at times but to enable our readers and those old 'arm-chair critics' to find a clue to our difficulties and to look with an eye of kindness and tolerance on the doings of the tourists during unsuccessful operations.

On a small but beautiful ground, surrounded by an equally beautiful and picturesque garden, we played the Magnus Club, which is recognised as one of the leading clubs in the N. W. Provinces. Our bowlers were very effective though none of them had striking analysis. Their score of 83 runs was due to the efforts of Zainul and Rauza, who scored 22 each. Our batting was however fitful and at 26-5-0 it seemed that we were going to lose the match. However Wagle saved the situation and this congenial and social member, who was a hot candidate for the Hindu team during that year, made his timely score of 36. It was only a day's match but it was a hard fought game which we won by 4 wickets and two runs.

MAGNUS CLUB.

1st Innings.	
Sirajuddin, c Wagle, b Sabawala ...	3
Zainulabad, b Driver	22
Akbar Hasan, b Sabawala	1
M. Rouza, c Parekh, b Watcha ...	22
M. Hussain, lbw Parekh	13
Abdul Aziz, b Driver	1
Nasir Jalil, st Mulla, b Parekh ...	4
C. B. Jones, run out	0
N. N. Langrana, b Parekh	12

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
P. Davar	4	0	18	0
A. Sabawala	9	2	25	2
A. Driver	7	1	14	2
M. Watcha	6	1	11	2
M. Parekh	4	0	12	3

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Shafkat, b Watcha	2
Pran Nath, not out	0
Extras	3
Total ...	83

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

Jam. Antia, b Shafkat	11
N. Bharucha, c Jalil, b Abdul Aziz ...	0
M. Parekh, c & b Shafkat	0
A. Driver, b Abdul Aziz	0
H. Gimi, b Shafkat	0
H. Mulla, lbw Akbar	25
R. Wagle, not out	36
Jeh. Antia, not out	5
M. Dastur, A. Sabawala, M. Watcha, did not bat	
Extras	8
Total (6 wkts.)	85

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Abdul Aziz	10	0	38	2
Shafkat	13	3	27	3
Akbar	3	0	12	1

After the close of the match we left Delhi for Patiala, where we arrived the next morning. At the station, we were received by Major Mistry, Private Secretary to His Highness and the greatest in the ranks of Elph. cricketers. But few of us knew while alighting at the station that we were treading upon the soil sanctified as the birthplace of the great Persian poet, Amir Khosroo. We were lodged at the Guest House, as the guests of H. H. the Maharaja and surrounded with the best of hospitality and attention for which the State is so well known. The late Maharaja, the greatest princely patron of Indian cricket, was of the most hospitable turn of mind and his worthy son was determined that the virtue should not rust from want of being exercised. We expected sport and welcome of a true sportsman and we got both with a vengeance. On the evening of arrival we were given a garden party at His Highness Palace. We had also a tennis tournament. The Maharaja played

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a vigorous game ; his base line shots being chiefly conspicuous. He was however not fully backed up by his partner and lost after an exciting tussel against Doctor and Engineer.

On the 20th and 21st we played the Maharaja's eleven. We met here with the best trained and the most up to date, if not the strongest team. It had nothing of the provincial or orthodox about it, as in the case of others that confronted us. The whole eleven was in perfect trim and training, being under the coaching of Tarrant, the famous Middlesex Pro. The ground was perfect and played true upto the last ball of the match. Their innings was characterised by the mammoth partnership of Tarrant and the Maharaja. The former was a splendid bat with a repertory of scoring strokes. He made our bowling look extremely simple and displayed batting in all its phases, exhausting all the strokes in the book of cricket, without any evident effort. There was a suggestion of certainty, of quick thinking and resolute action in his play. There was no fumbling about the crease, nor unnecessary swinging of the bat after a futile stroke. His innings was certainly a masterpiece, though not very attractive from the spectator's point of view. His batting, like that of most professionals was marked by the absence of that flash of brilliancy, which makes an innings so attractiveto the onlookers. In his score of 67 there were only four boundaries. In this respect, His Highness was more entertaining; for he made his drives and cuts with such slashing vigour that he always kept the spectators alive to his play and at times sent them into raptures. He was however not the reckless hitter that caters to the gallery but a sound and rigorous order of a batsman. His 'on' drives were very powerful, but he was equally free in his treatment on the 'off'. Next to Tarrant's innings, his was perhaps the best we encountered on this tour. When His Highness got out, the board read 167-4-64,but the rest of the wickets fell with the addition of 16 runs only. Driver bowled well and captured 5 wickets during his last two overs with the loss of only 2 runs. We started our innings badly. But Mulla and Gimi stuck in till 150 were wiped off. They broke

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Elph. College vs. The Maharaja XI

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the back of the hard job which at first seemed difficult to accomplish. Mulla played uncommonly well giving a curious mixed display of stabbing offence and stolid defence, changing his style and play as his original brain would suggest. He punished Tarrant more than necessary, though he was once favoured by a burly fielder who got his high catch clean on his chest and gave him a 4, by kicking the ball to the boundary. Gimi played like a seasoned veteran, scoring high with a minimum of risk. He has no doubt a big game temperament though he has the technical fault of playing back too much. But there is an absence of dash in him, which might otherwise make his batting more attractive. His performance was distinctly good and Major Mistry could not help expressing his surprise at the exclusion of this player from the Parsee team. Tarrant was all in all on field and captured 8 wickets on a ground, which gave absolutely no help to the bowlers. His performance was however not confined to batting and bowling only; the catch with which he dismissed Bharucha was a beauty. He is ambidextrous and can catch and throw equally well with either hand, a quality unknown to any of our Indian cricketers.

In the second innings the State team gave us less trouble. Tarrant got run out, the result of a faulty call from his partner. His Highness again proved himself both brilliant and consistent. There was no unjudicious banging; each ball was treated on its merit. He played a rattling innings and scored 38. Our batting was a most uncertain factor and when both our pillars Mulla and Gimi broke down, we had no other recourse but to play out time. The match was drawn.

PATIALA RAJENDRA CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
F. Tarrant, lbw Jeh. Antia	64	run out	38
L. Goculchand, b Driver	2	c & b, Watcha	1
L. Tarachand, c Driver, b Parekh ...	9	run out	1
H. H. The Maharaja, b Watcha ...	65	b Jeh. Antia	41
Major Thompson, b Driver	12	not out	21
Major Gurbakhsh Sing, b Watcha ...	3	b Driver	7

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M. Leigh, run out	...	...	0	c & b Driver...	...	...	0
Sells, b Driver ...	...	...	0	b Driver ...	...	..	0
S. Jogundar Sing, not out	...	...	4	c Sabawala, b Watcha		...	2
Abul Ghani, lbw Driver	...	...	2	c Bharucha, b Watcha		...	9
Sadan Sing, b Driver ...	...	...	0	lbw Driver ...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	22	Extras ...		...	19
Total	...		183	Total		...	139

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	19	1	48	2	18	2	53	3
Driver	16	0	63	5	17	8	41	4
Parekh	6	1	20	1	...	...	...	...
Sabawala	6	1	17	0	4	0	10	0
Antia	9	3	13	1	3	1	16	1

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.				2nd Innings.			
Jam Antia, lbw Tarrant	..	...	0	b Ghani	...	...	6
A. Driver, b Tarrant ...	...	...	5	not out	...	...	4
M. Parekh, c Sells, b Tarrant...		...	9	c Thompson, b Ghani		...	18
H, Gimi, b Tarrant ...	...	...	49	c Thompson, b Tarrant		...	8
H. Mulla, b Tarrant ...	...	...	58	b Tarrant ..	..	...	9
N. Bharucha, c & b Tarrant ...		...	15	b Tarrant ...	...	...	0
M. Watcha, c Tarrant, b Ghani		...	10	not out ...	...	...	5
M. Dastur, run out ...	..	...	0	did not bat			
R. Wagle, b Tarrant,	...	...	8				
Jeh. Antia, not out ...	...	...	3				
A. Sabavala, c & b Tarrant	...	...	1				
Extras	...	...	24	Extras	...	...	1
Total	...		182	Total (5 wkts.)			51

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Tarrant	28	4	72	8	17	4	33	3
Ghani	22	7	60	1	17	12	17	2
Tarachand	6	0	26	0	...	...	...	...

Taking our last state supper on the field soon after the close of the match, we left Patiala for Jamu. The train accommodation on the N. W. Ry. was simply scandalous, and we had to pack

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ourselves with our luggage in a compartment of narrow dimensions. Next morning we halted at Wazirabad for a few hours, waiting for the connecting train to take us to Jamu. The six hours we spent roaming about the city were perhaps the pleasantest on tour. During the ramble we visited a village school, where we induced the schoolmaster to give a holiday to the boys in honour of our visit, accompanying the proposal with an eight anna bit, as the price of the purchased honour. The temporary emancipation was hailed with roaring cheers, the cheers assuming a cresendo tune, when we distributed walnuts and sweets. Escorted by these juvenile admirers we reached the station and left Wazirabad for Jamu, where we were playing H. H. the Maharaja of Kashmir's XI. With Jamu commenced the lordly Hymalayas, range after range and peak after peak. But we were not fated to go direct to Jamu as we had hoped. The faint rumour which we had heard while wandering in the bazars at Wazirabad that there was rain at Jamu turned out to be true, when to our surprise and disappointment we were asked to get down at Sialkote, where it was thought possible to play the match. It was a case of the mountain coming to us instead of our going to the mountain. But the miracle did not please us for we had set our hearts on seeing the snow peaks of the Hymalayas and being in a place which might by some stretch of point be called to be the gate of that Eden on earth, *Kashmir*. Besides we justly feared that the arrangements for our reception at Sialkote could not be satisfactory owing to the shortness of the notice. Our fears were partly realis ed. An old lonely, dilapidated bungalow was hastily fitted up for us. The evening was delightfully chilly and charming outside, but our prospects inside the bungalow were far from being so. However we sat down to dinner before a bright fire and our apetite too was brightening up, when horror of horrors, provision ran short. The poor *Khansama* had counted without his host and had pitifully miscalculated both our capacity and number. The dishes came half ways up the table and in the struggle for existence that ensued,

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each one was for himself, regardless of the wise and unselfish admonitions of our captain who happened to sit at the wrong end of the table. For some time there was nothing but the shouts of 'Food, Food' after the manner of the memorable Paris mob in the days of the French Revolution. For a time the venerable *Khansama* with his satellites stood ground. At last flesh and blood could stand no longer; he looked scared, laid the dishes on the table and made a clean retreat. It was a unique night in our history.

The morning of the 24th rose dim and chilly with early showers, and the wet state of the weather continued ? nullifying any possibility we had of playing the match. But in return we had a pleasant and enjoyable day, the loveliness of the weather being shared by Principal Dadina and Prof. Wadia who had come from Jamu to receive us.

We were rather anxious to see Jamu, and His Highness very kindly made arrangements for our visit to his winter capital. We had a very merry Christmas day. Principal Dadina was our constant guide and companion and took us round the charming hill station. The city is not large but it lends a delightful view of the distant snow peaks. The cricket field remained soaky and playing the match was simply out of question. His Highness was very keen on the game and on the night of of the 25th, both the teams left Jamu for Lahore, where it was arranged to play out the match. On the evening of the 26th we arrived at Lahore and were lodged at the Braganza Hotel as the guests of His Highness.

On the 27th and 28th we played the much delayed match on the Atchinson College ground. His Highness team was the strongest team we met on this tour and may reasonably be classed as one of the strongest eleven then in India. It had the Dewan Saheb Daya Kishen, A. Mehta, Shafkat, Noor Elahi, Maneckchand, Salamatrai, all of whom had made their mark in first class cricket. Their first innings realised 151, chiefly raised by

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the Dewan Saheb. The Dewan Saheb played a game quite peculiar to himself and was a great exponent of the cross bat theory. His strokes were entirely confined to 'on' and like Jessop could sweep a good length ball to mid-on with ease. Our top bowlers failed but Sabawala come off for the first time on tour and beautifully too. He took 5 for 11 quite a record by the way. We had a very strong quartette of bowlers to oppose. Shafkat, Maneckchand, Noor Elahi and Metha. But the last had anything but his former form. Parekh scored 22 and made the most of the torrent of loose balls delivered by Mehta. Gimi was the top scorer by 32 but Mulla was out to an excellent ball of Shafkat.

H. Gimi

The ominipresent Shafkat played against us on this tour for the third time and was the most successful bowler from the Kashmir side. With a lead of 47 they began their second innings. The young player Noor Elahi played a graceful and neat innings though devoid of hard and powerful strokes, probably owing to his delicate constitution. Beyond doubt he was one of the best all round men then in India and was very highly spoken of by the leading cricket critics. Our second innings was no improvement on the first and we resorted to the negative tactics of playing out time. Our team is generally seen at its best when playing with the back to the wall or when attempting to play an up hill game to snatch a surprise victory. On this occasion our defence was surperb and easily bore the attack of those powerful bowlers. The keeness of His Highness, who was present on both the days throughout, was simply admirable and feeling dissatisfied at the speedy termination of the match, he remarked "*kuch fikar nahi aur bhi khelo.*" (Never mind, play a day more.) Surely it was no mean honour to our team that His Highness displayed so much keeness over our match and in his eagerness to have a game with us, shifted both his camp and players

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from place to place—an arrangement entailing a considerable amount of expense and trouble. We had been kept willing prisoners in Kashmir territory and had to stay for a longer time than we had proposed on the hospitality of the State, whose liberality and kindness were gratefully acknowledged by our captain.

H. H. THE MAHARAJAH OF KASHMIR'S TEAM.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Noor Elahi, c & b Driver	24	b Wagle	61
A. H. Mehta, b Watcha	12	b Antia	20
Maneckchand, b Driver	19	st Mulla, b Watcha ...	4
Salamat Rai, b Parekh	20	c Mulla, b Sabavala... ...	16
Dewan Saheb Daya Kishen, b Sabavala	52	b Watcha	2
Shafkat, l b w Driver	0	c Jeh. Antia, b Watcha ...	15
Ram Kishen, b Sabavala	15	run out	28
Sardah Ram, c Mulla, b Sabavala ...	3	c Gimi, b Wagle	8
Butaram, b Sabavala	1	not out	5
Shiva Kishen, b Sabavala	0	did not bat	
Bhagvandas, not out	0		
Extras	5	Extras	5
Total ...	151	Total (8 wkts.)	164

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	13	0	50	1	12	2	50	3
Daver	4	0	20	0	...	..	...	...
Driver	12	1	38	3	7	0	22	0
Parekh	8	0	24	1	4	0	41	0
Sabavala	6	1	11	5	11	0	32	1
Antia	2	0	3	0	7	0	10	1
Wagle	...	...	...	...	3	0	4	2

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Jam. Antia, c Mehta, b Noor Elahi ...	1	b Noor Elahi	26
N. Bharucha, st Mehta	10	b Shafkat	7
M. Parekh, b Noor Elahi	22	b Shafkat	0
H. Gimi, b Maneckchand	32	c & b Noor Elahi	15
H. Mulla, b Shafkat	0	b Maneck Chand	17

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R. Wagle, b Shafkat	16	c Sardah Ram, c Noor Elahi	5
A. Driver, b Maneckchand	1	not out	2
M. Watcha, b Shafkat	1	c Buta Ram, b Shafkat ...	11
Jeh. Antia, c Dewan Saheb, b M. Chand.	7	not out	0
P. Daver, not out	7	b Mehta	3
A. Sabavala, b Shafkat	3	did not bat	
Extras	19	Extras	3
Total ...	119	Total (8 wkts.)	89

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R	W.
Noor Elahi	14	5	20	2	9	4	11	3
Mehta	7	0	31	1	6	3	6	1
Shafkat	13	2	26	4	10	3	35	3
Bhagwandas	1	0	5	0	...	...	...	...
Maneckchand	6	2	18	3	12	2	34	1

On the night of the 28th, we left Lahore for Alwar where we played the last item of our programme with the Alwar State Club. On the way we halted for a few hours at Delhi to see the well-renowned pillar Kutub Minar and arrived at Alwar on the morning of the 30th. We played the match on the same day. For some unaccountable reason, we did not think much of this last match and took it rather languidly. Our fighting units were also reduced owing to the injury of Mulla and the departure of Parekh and Dastur to Bombay. Moreover the general aspect of the game was not calculated to rouse our energy. The cricket field was length without breadth; the players clad in Jodhpur breeches and the umpire, a majestic figure, robed in shining red from top to toe, surmounted by a huge *puggree* of blazing scarlet. The whole concern was primitive and highly picturesque. But these cricketers turned out to be excellent fielders, wonderfully sharp and active. During all our tours in India, we have never come across such sharp fielding. They were sure catches, never allowed a ball to pass through their fingers, picked the ball with lightning rapidity and threw it with a deadly aim. Winning the toss the usual order of batting was departed from. Sabawala and Wagle made merry with the promotion granted to them. Each of them

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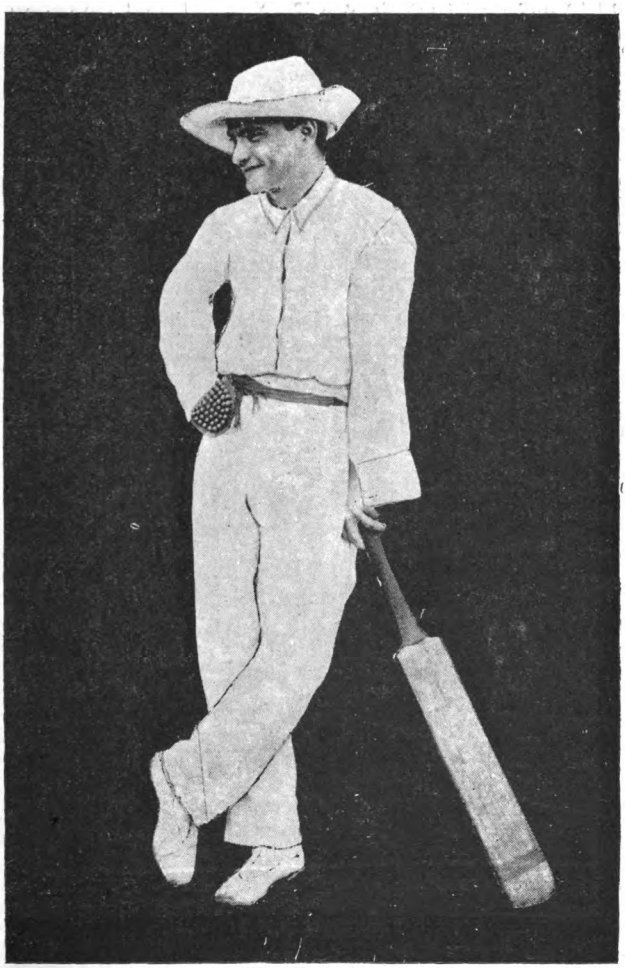

H. F. Mulla

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had two 5's in their score and curiously enough on both those occasions, they narrowly escaped getting run out. As we progressed with the match we saw our mistake in trifling with it and found to our cost that they were a good deal more advanced in the game than our first sight of them had led us to suppose. They replied with 109.Their batting was not particularly striking; but under proper coaching the players gave promise to turn out excellent bats. Alwar is one of the prominent sporting states and supplies some of the best polo players to the various teams in India. In the second innings we took matters more seriously ; but were playing with somewhat overstrung nerves. The natural result was that we slumped for 70 only. Gimi who secored 30 was out by a clever trick ; the bowler making him run out as he left the crease before the delivery of the ball, a feat which was very highly appreciated by the crowd and for which the fortunate bowler was presented with a guinea.

In the second innings Jeh. Antia was on the spot and bowled in a style quite reminiscent of his great bowling feats during the College days. He kept an immaculate lenght and flighted the ball splendidly. The third wicket fell for 52 and the eighth for 58. At this stage the immodest band which had been playing since the early afternoon, and as if tired of its continual neglect banged out 'O ! Listen to the Band.' Simple Gimi ! his musical ears could stand this no longer and he turned round to give an admiring ear to it. As ill-luck would have it, a high catch flew at him ; but being inattentive he misjudged it and dropped it. The loss of the catch might have cost us the match, for the player Shamsher Khan took advantage of this good luck and raised the scored from 58 to 101 when he got out. The last wicket fell immediately afterwards and we won an exciting match by 11 runs.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.			2nd Innings.		
B. Mehta, b Mohan Lal	9	b Bhavan	5		
P. Davar, c Madho Sing, b Bhavan ...	19	run out	1		
Jeh. Antia, c Gulam Kassim, b MohanLal	8	b Bhavan	0		

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M. Watcha, b Mohan Lal	6	b Bhavan	5
R. Wagle, c Shamsher Khan, b Bhavan	35	c Bheron, b Bhavan ...	2
A. Sabavala, b Bhavan	31	c Madho, b Bhavan ...	4
H. Gimi, c Mohan Lal, b Mahado Sing	22	run out	30
N. Bharucha, c Smr. Khan, b Bhavan	8	b Gulam Kassim	1
Jam. Antia, not out	12	b Bhavan	7
A. Driver, b Gulam Kassim	0	b Bhavan	1
F. Doctor, c Bishamber, b Kassim	4	not out	0
Extras ...	3	Extras	14
Total ...	157	Total ...	70

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Bhavan	20	2	55	4	11	3	30	7
Madho Sing	11	1	42	1	...	..	...	...
Mohan Lal	13	1	50	3	...	...	...	...
Gulam Kassim	9	5	7	2	12	2	19	1
Shamsher Khan	...	...	...	...	2	0	7	0

ALWAR STATE CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Bishember Dayal, st Antia, b Watcha.	2	lbw Jeh. Antia	1
Mohmad Nazir, c Bharucha, b Watcha.	27	b Watcha	0
Behraneaksh, b Watcha	18	b Jeh. Antia...	15
Moshir, b Wagle	6	b Jeh. Antia...	12
Bhavan Sing, b Driver	13	b Jeh. Antia	0
Madho Sing, c Gimi, b Wagle	1	run out	12
Hiralal, run out...	8	b Jeh. Antia	2
Hasan Khan, c Doctor, b Driver ...	15	b Jeh. Antia	1
Mohan Lal, b Watcha	2	c Gimi, b Driver	17
Shamsher Khan, b Watcha	11	b Jeh. Antia	36
Gulam Kassim, not out	0	not out	0
Extras	6	Extras	11
Total ...	109	Total ...	107

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W
Watcha	11	0	30	5	8	0	38	1
Sabavala	5	1	23	0	..	..	..	...
Driver	10	3	35	2	7	2	5	1
Wagle	5	0	15	2	5	0	20	0
Antia	...	...	..	..	20	5	33	7

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We left Alwar on the night of the 31st, and after a tedious journey arrived at Bombay on the morning of the 2nd January.

With a single loss, two wins and 3 drawn games, we concluded our tour, a very successful result considering the high calibre of the hefty team against whom we were contending. There was nothing to cavil at in our performance, nor anything to go into raptures about. We did uniformly well in the all branches of the game, though our batting was a most unreliable unit. The tour was by no means a failure as our gloomy forecast had led others to suppose, and the reputation of the College was maintained, nay, more than maintained. The firm stand which we made at Patiala and the tenacious resistance which helped us to draw the game against the Kashmir team showed that we were foemen worthy of their steel. The performance which we made at these two places was extremely gratifying and even Tarrant very sportingly expressed his opinion that our team boasted of excellent and quite up to date cricket. We were glad that this tour was after all a success as it provided a happy ending to the brilliant career of Dadachanji as a tour secretary.

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CHAPTER VII.

The Flying Trip to Baroda. August 1909.

TEAM.

Prof. G. Anderson. (Capt.)	Mr. F. S. Doctor.
„ R. Marrs.	„ J. J. Batliwala.
Mr. P. H. Daver.	„ J. K. Munshi.
„ J. E. Sanjana.	„ H. K. Dadachanji.
„ B. F. Mehta.	„ N. C. Bharucha.
„ P. H. Judge.	„ Jam. D. Antia.
„ R. J. Tata.	(Hon. Sec. & Treasr.)

Before we narrate the account of this flying trip to Baroda, we record the death of one of our tourists, Mr. Jamshed Oomrigar, which took place in May of that year. The team is indeed poor by his loss ; he was a good bat and did good service as an auxiliary 'man behind the sticks.' He is the only tourist whom death has snatched away from our midst. He leaves behind the memory of a sweet disposition and congenial friendship.

In June of the same year Mr. Dadachanji laid down the harness of the secretaryship ; the stern affairs of his legal profession precluding him from taking active interest in the tour. What he has done for the tour is self-evident. He was in charge of the management since the very inception of the tour and had to labour hard to rear the infant sapling. But his work would have been easier had it been immune from the chronic attacks of those 'arm chair critics', whose dissentient voice was always

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heard when anything went wrong. But the spirit of Mr. Dadachanji never faltered, and with patience, iron will, tact and discretion, he drove onward like a wedge, slowly but surely overcoming every hard obstacle raised by the wretched schism, and like a skillful navigator steered clear of all the shoals and rocks with which his early venture was surrounded. Energetic and indefatigable in his endeavours for the good of the tourists, he throughout his

B. Dadachanji

career observed a most cheerful and good humoured disposition and thereby shed a ray of comfort over the team during its variegated reverses. The keenness, zeal and energy, which he displayed in managing the tours were remarkable and won the admiration of all those who formed the teams. But the appreciation of his worth was not merely sentimental. The tourists presented him with a handsome cup in recognition of his meritorious services. But to

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him, the work of the tour secretary was a 'labour of love' and believing that the recognition of his services was a sufficient reward in itself,he, like an unselfish man, presented the cup to the College. The handsome trophy, one of the best adorning the showcase in our library, is offered for competition in an annual cricket match between the past and present students.

The visit to the charming capital of the Gaikwar State was the result of an invitation by Prince Shivajirao of Baroda, who had a strong team of his own. We had however great difficulty in raising our team at that time of the year. The students both past and present, have a very busy season and can hardly get away from their work. Our ranks were however much strengthened by the inclusion of Profs. Anderson and Marrs, who accompanied our team for the first time out of Bombay.

A night's journey from Colaba brought us to Baroda. But great was our disappointment on arrival to find a heavy shower of rain rattling on the roof of our carriage. After passing a few idle hours at the Guest House, we drove in the noon to the cricket pavilion, where we lunched with Prince Shivajirao and his team. The ground was simply delightful being situated in the picturesque garden surrounding the Laxmi Villas Palace. The pitch itself was level and green like a proverbial billiard table, though very soft on this occasion owing to the extremely wet state of the weather. After performing the usual ceremony of inspecting the pitch, it was decided to begin the match after lunch, owing to the pulpy nature of the turf at the bowling crease, which rendered fair play to the bowlers out of question.

Fortunately the rain held over completely and the match was begun late in the afternoon. The next was the all-important toss, and our captain quite a stranger to the pitch would have gladly welcomed the loss of it. We won it and elected to bat, the best thing that one can do when he is in doubt. Our innings how-

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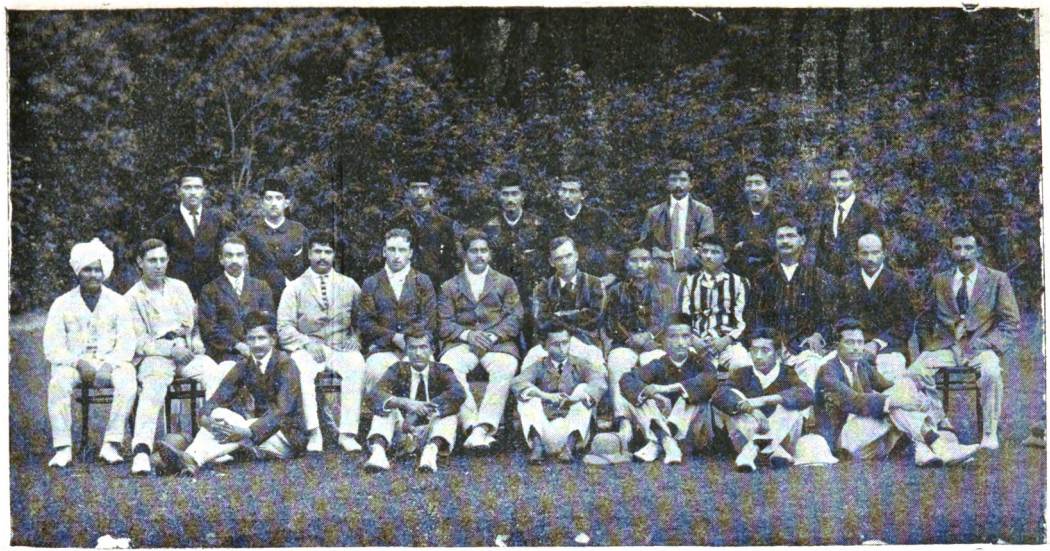

Elph. College vs. Prince Shivajirao XI

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ever did not last long ; Prof. Marrs and Jam. Antia scoring 20 each out of 80. The ground became patchy in a short time, as was apparent from the numerous dents made on it and the ball bumped and broke in a variegated manner. J. Dabash, the well known Parsee bowler, bowled very well though much of his deadliness was due to the soft nature of the pitch. Our opponent's innings was remarkable for the fine batting display of Prince Shivajirao, who scored 60 out of 120. He looked like a second Maharaja of Patiala, and his style and general demeanour at the wickets put us in mind of His Highness. He played an all round game but his long drive was a rare effect of good strength and correct timing. He is certainly one of the best cricketing princes in India, and if he keeps up his interest in the game, he has a bright future before him.

Scarcely had we began our second innings when the heavens again wept, as if mourning over our loss in the first innings. The natural result was a draw.

During the latter part of the second day H. H. the Maharaja of Gaikwar graced the match with his presence and took tea with the teams. We had quite an enjoyable time, excepting for the fact that the match was ruthlessly interfered with by wet and cheerless weather, which allowed little play on the first day and curtailed proceedings on the second.

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CHAPTER VIII.

The Cutch Tour.

1909.

Period 14 days.	TEAM.	Miles 1100.
Mr. M. B. Watcha. (Capt.)		Mr. S. M. Chothia.
Prof. O. V. Muller.		,, A. R. Driver.
,, K. N. Colville.		,, D. K. Kapadia.
Dr. H. D. Gimi.		,, A. P. Sabawala.
Mr. B. K. Dadachanji.		,, H. N. Vakil.
,, M. K. Neksatkhan.		,, R. J. Tata.
,, F. S. Doctor.		,, B. J. Bhapu.
,, H. F. Mulla.		,, Jam. D. Antia.
,, Jeh. D. Antia.		(Hony. Sec. & Treasr.)

With the opening of this chapter we bring to a close the tour controversy, to which it has been our sad duty to make passing reference on several occasions. With the change in the personnel of the secretaryship and the advent of Prof. A. L. Covernton as the Principal of the College, a little agitation was set on foot, which had for its object, the decentralization of the power of the tour secretary and the establishment of a executive committee for the tour. Principal Covernton's worthy predecessors had taken no notice of the nature of the various objections raised against the tour and its management by the old busy body and had allowed the matters to take their own course. But Prin. Covernton probed the question minutely and once for all cut the Gordian knot of the tour controversy by declaring himself in favour of the tour and the

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Principal A. L. Covernton

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status quo. If Hon. Mr. Sharp inaugurated the tour and Prin, Mc. Millan cherished and patronised it later, all the honour of making it a permanent annual event goes with Prin. Covernton. Apart from this tour question, Prin. Covernton has showed in varied ways his interest in the affairs of the past students. In his sober zeal for the past students, he never lost sight of the rights of the present students and abstained from giving indulgence to the former in matters which might conflict with the interest of the latter. It will perhaps be remembered that when the writer first originated the idea of starting an Old Elphs. Club in 1909, Prin. Covernton was the first to come forward with his patronizing and helping hand to accelerate the movement. The result was an informal meeting of several leading past students at the Principal's residency, where the proceedings went so far as to baptise the would-be-club with the name of the 'Old Elphs. Club.' But as the writer did not agree with some of the professors in adjusting the rights of the past and present students, despite the efforts of Prin. Covernton to break up the differences, the idea fell through, though it was carried out successfully later in a modified form at the suggestion of H. E. Lord Sydenham, and resulted in the formation of the Elph. Society.

The tour as a permanent annual event had a precarious existence; but Prin. Covernton saved it from the vandalistic hands of those 'wreckers.' Fully bearing in mind the peculiar circumstances of the case, he adopted the right principle of making the secretary wholly responsible for the undertaking and gave him a free hand to farrow his own plough; and nothing indeed has since occurred to descredit the line of action taken by him. The working of the tour since then has been very smooth and fortunately the clamourous tongues of our old critics have ceased wagging for ever.

This was the shortest tour taken by us ; the number of matches being unavoidably restricted to only two. Though there exists much difference of opinion regarding the best team sent by us on tour and though several writers on various occasions have expressed their opinion that the team of 1901 was the best, still we hold

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to the opinion that the combination which visited Kathiawar might be classed in all round excellence as the strongest eleven ever placed on the field, not only on tour but also in Bombay. With the bright galaxy of bowlers like Watcha, Driver, Antia, Tata, Neksat and Bhapu, and with the brilliant array of bats of the calibre of Mulla, Chothia, Kapadia, Neksat and Gimi, it would be hard to think that any college combination could ever be superior to it. Add to the number, Telang, Karaka and Mody and we have a complete list of the best cricket talents ever produced by the College. Another great cricketer commenced his tour career during this year and left his mark as one of the most useful tourists. We refer to Dolly Kapadia whose rattling hitting has excited the admiration of those who had the pleasure to witness him.

D. Kapadia

On the morning 19th Dec. we left Colaba for Jamnagar. At 10 in the evening we changed at Viramgam and the morning of the next day saw us in the heart of Kathiawar. The first thing that strikes an outsider as he is dragged at a funeral pace on the B. G. J. P. Ry, is the depressing monotony of the scene. A broad expanse of sandy track studded alternately by a few cultivated fields and half-starving cactus bushes, forms what a tourist may call 'the scenery of the journey.' On the morning of the 20th we reached Jamnagar and were received at the station by Mr. G. Foster, Private Secretary to H. H. the Jamsaheb. Thanks to H. H the Jamsaheb, whose hospitality to cricketers goes without saying, an extensive camp was pitched for our reception, which provided all the necessary comforts which a touring party couldexpect.

On the evening of our arrival we played a tennis tournament; each side was represented by three pairs. Our side lost by 5 to 4. On the night of the same day we were dined at the gymkhana pavilion. Several toasts were honoured and drunk, but the speech-makers were busy with the maxillary function and seemed to

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have exhausted all their energy over it Amongst all our dinners this was noted for the complete absence of speeches.

The Jamnagar XI though without the services of His Highness, who was *hors de combat* with a swollen leg, was excellent. The pitch was matted, while the out field despite the many efforts to improve it, afforded no pleasure even to the most enthusiastic fielder. Cheetham was bowled by a bailer by Antia, while Foster was smartly held by Neksat off the same bowler. But it was the lucky Ratilal who carried the game. He was missed when he had scored nothing and had four more chances before he was finally dismissed He played a useful game though there was nothing to recount in his innings except his leg-glances, in playing which he was more lucky than a masterhand. We collapsed badly; another proof of our inability to play on a matting pitch. Their work on the field was characterised by the bowling of Bhojraji, steady and accurate. He bowled 15 overs out of which 9 were maidens and took 5 wickets for 17 runs. We got a follow on and again started disastrously, 24-4-0 being registered on the board. It would be perhaps interesting to know that our precious batting ornament Chothia was out for a pair of spetacles, while our new tour colt Kapadia, of whom much was expected, was sent back to the stables for the same. However our tour pillars, more reliable than showy, gave their support and drew the match out of the fire. Gimi played an unblemished innings for 50 and foiled every attempt of H. H. the Thakore Saheb to dislodge him. Mulla who is as much a stonewaller as a hitter employed negative tactics and assisted Gimi in playing out time. Mulla is indeed a tower of strength to our tour team and the beauty of his play lies in the fact that he plays at the most opportune moment and varies both his style and play according to circumstances. He is a player on whom a dangerous crisis produces quite a different result and he is seen best when his side is loosing. The pair made a stubborn stand for full three hours and drew the game. H H the Jamsaheb was present to witness the match throughout both the days and treated the members with general comments on the game, which were both amusing and interesting.

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H. H. THE JAMSAHEB'S XI.

1st Innings.

H. Cheetham, b Antia	... ...	11
Ratilal Antany, b Watcha	... ...	76
J. Jhala, c Mulla, b Bhapu	... ...	11
W. Heasmay, lbw Watcha	... ..	20
G. Foster, c Neksat, b Antia	...	12
H. H. Thakor Saheb, b Driver	...	28
H Simms, c Jam. Antia, b Driver	...	4
Somchand, c Driver, b Antia	...	9
K. Bhojraji, c Chothia, b Kapadia	...	22
Harisingji, b Kapadia	... ...	37
Keshavlal, not out	... .	7
Extras	... ...	5
Total	...	242

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Antia	34	7	74	3
Watcha	14	0	44	2
Driver	21	0	61	2
Bhapu	7	1	29	1
Neksat	6	1	14	0
Tata	2	0	9	0
Kapadia	4	1	6	2

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

B. Bhapu, b Simms	... ...	16
S. Chothia, b Bhojraji	... ...	0
A. Driver, b Simms	... ...	8
H. Mulla, b Bhojraji	... ...	6
H. Gimi, c Harisingji, b Bhojraji	...	12
D. Kapadia, st Foster, b Simms	...	0
M. Neksatkhan, b Bhojraji	... ...	4
Jam. Antia, c Cheetham, b Simms	...	11
M. Watcha, lbw Simms	... ...	4
Jeh. Antia, c Jhala, b Bhojraji	...	11
R. Tata, not out	... ...	0
Extras	... ...	15
Total		87

2nd Innings.

b H. H. Thkore Saheb	...	11
b H. H. Thakore Saheb	...	0
b H. H. Thakore Saheb	...	0
not out	... .	28
not out	... .	51
c H. H. Thakore Saheb, b Simms		0
did not bat		
Extras	... ...	22
Total (4 wkts.)		112

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
H. H. Thakore Saheb	7	2	15	0	11	2	13	3
Simms	18	3	40	5	16	6	16	1
Bhojraji	15	9	17	5	5	1	8	0
Cheetham	...	...	...	...	5	3	4	0
Keshavlal	...	...	...	...	9	2	30	0
Harisingji	...	...	...	...	4	1	13	0
Somchand	...	...	...	...	2	0	6	0
Ratilal	...	...	...	...	1	1	0	0

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On the evening of the 22nd, Mulla and Dadachanji left the team and returned to Bombay. At nine in the night, the rest of team left Jamnagar by state coaches for Bedi Bunder, the port of embarkation for Bhooj, where we were playing the second and the last fixture of the tour. After a couple of hours' drive we arrived at the Bunder, which to our surprise did not look like one at all. It was simply a rocky beach far off from habitation and without any shelter or shed to cover us from the chilly wind that blew in the dead of night. The whole affair looked gloomy and dreary; and tired as we were after the long drive, the announcement that there were no boats to take us to the steamer at a considerable distance from the shore, caused a great deal of annoyance. It was mid-night and the proposal to cross over for the steamer in a little unseaworthy boat, especially when the elements were so unfavourable, was enough to generate dread and misgivings in the heart of our team, and it did generate more than an average amount in the hearts of Neksat and Gimi, our old sickly sailors, who by their ominous actions showed signs of bolting. To advance or not to advance was the question. A council of war was held, and when the deliberations were proceeding, the rattling of the wheels in the grave-like silence of the night, announced that the two non-Elphs., as Prof. Muller styled them afterwards, had deserted the college camp. But it was as inconvenient to retreat as to advance. It was therefore finally decided to take to the postal boat which was available. The boat had small capacity and we had to make two trips to transport both our men and cargo. At one in the morning the last party headed by Prof. Muller left the shore of Jamnagar. Buffeted by the stormy gale and nasty breakers, our tiny boat soon found itself in difficulties. The perilous course of the boat kept us on our tenter hooks. At one stage the gust of wind was so strong that it was our good fortune that the boat was not capsized. But Prof. Muller was simply regaling himself over the danger and sang a couplet of a sea-song, remarking at its conclusion that it was the daring spirit on sea that had made England so very

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great. But unfortunately we never had any chance of developing such sea faring spirit; our casual nautical adventures being strictly confined to the three-houred trip to Elephanta, when generally two hours are spent in disgorging what we have eaten during the previous one.

At three in the morning our steamer began to plough the waters. It is always rough while crossing the Cutch creek and this occasion was no exception to the rule. We were badly tossed and felt quite sea sick. But all is well that ends well and about eight in the morning, our sickly and pale-faced heroes landed at Tuna Bunder.

A few hours' journey by the Cutch Ry. brought us to Bhooj. We were received as the state guests of H. H. the Maharao of Cutch and were lodged at the Guest House, the whole of which was placed at our disposal. Our team had been scattered by various incidents and the twelve members that remained needed some time to recuperate, after their last nasty migration. The much desired proposal to postpone the match came from the opponents themselves. Prince Vijayaraji Saheb, against whose team we were playing, had met with an accident to his right eye and was asked under medical advice to abstain from playing for a few days. We readily agreed to their proposal and after a rest of three days began the match.

Cricket is not a popular game at Cutch and despite the great interest taken by Prince Vijayaraji Saheb, the people show no liking for it. The place suffers from its geografical position, being out of touch with the cricketing centres of India. There is not therefore that frequent exchange of visits which might otherwise make the game popular and prosperous. A Cutchi spectator during the course of the match asked us how many times we had scored 1000 runs. The poor fellow must have seen little of cricket and had formed a vague

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idea of reckoning the score as they do the *lals* in the Indian game of *gilli dandoo*.

The match however did not prove a one sided affair as the result might lead one to suppose. Contrary to expectations the home team put up a good total of 92 runs. Smith played well for the home side and made several hard pulls. Our first innings gave as a lead of 16 runs. Chothia came off well with 41, but Kapadia was again disappointing. In their second innings the eighth wicket fell for 38 and the ninth for 73. Smith was again the top scorer by 19 (N. O.). Bapasola was all in all on the field and fought hard like a veteran hero to prevent us from getting a victory. Their bowling was good but their fielding uncertain and it was the deficiency in this department that decided the match in our favour. Shivji was particularly unluckly and had the misfortune to have catches wherever he was placed on field and miss them too; his inability to hold them being accentuated by a feeling of nervousness, which was further engendered by the ruthless way in which he was scolded by his brother fielders. We won by 6 wickets.

PRINCE VIJAYARAJI SAHEB'S XI.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Prince Vijayaraji Saheb, c & b Antia	1	run out	2
Shivji, lbw Watcha	14	b Bhapu	16
K. Meruba, c Chothia, b Watcha ..	1	c Driver, b Bhapu ...	7
Kothi, run out	11	b Bhapu	0
Bapasola, c Kapadia, b Watcha ...	10	lbw Antia	0
Ismail, lbw Antia	2	b Antia	0
Smith, c Jeh. Antia, b Watcha ...	22	not out	19
Gega, b Driver	5	run out	2
Osman, not out	9	b Bhapu	11
Maoji, b Watcha	9	c Colville, b Bhapu	8
Devji, b Watcha	2	b Driver	3
Extras	6	Extras	5
Total ...	92	Total ...	73

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	16	6	31	6	7	2	14	0
Antia	16	3	40	2	11	2	29	2
Kapadia	4	3	7	0	...	...	...	...
Driver	5	3	8	1	1	0	3	1
Bhapu	...	...	...	...	8	1	22	5

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Inlings.	
A. Driver, b Bapasola	2	not out	14
D Kapadia, b Shivji	16	lbw Bapasola	4
H. Vakil, not out	1	c Substitute, b Bapasola ...	10
B. Bhapu, b Bapasola	14	b Bapasola	5
Jam. Antia, b Bapasola	0	c Substitute, b Bapasola ...	3
S. Chothia, b Osman	41	not out	22
R. Tata, c Osman, b Bapasola ...	14	did not bat	
K. Colville, b Bapasola	4		
M. Watcha, b Bapasola	0		
Jeh. Antia, b Shivji	0		
A. Sabawala, c Gega, b Osman ..	14		
Extras	2	Extras	2
Total...	108	Total (4 wkts)	60

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Bapasola	18	5	43	6	12	1	25	4
Ismail	9	2	30	0	6	2	9	0
Shivji	6	0	25	2	3	1	10	0
Osman	2	0	8	2	3	0	14	0

We had a spare evening at Bhooj ; it was therefore decided to play a hockey match ; a somewhat hasty decision on our side, seeing that we had only five players who had ever handled a stick. The game proved very exciting and amusing ; the later colour being supplied by our novice players, who while chasing the ball presented a comic picture of 'rat hunters.' Our opponents were a well trained military team. We however managed to win by 2 to 1 ; the Antia brothers scored a goal each. Our defence was impregnable, due in small measure

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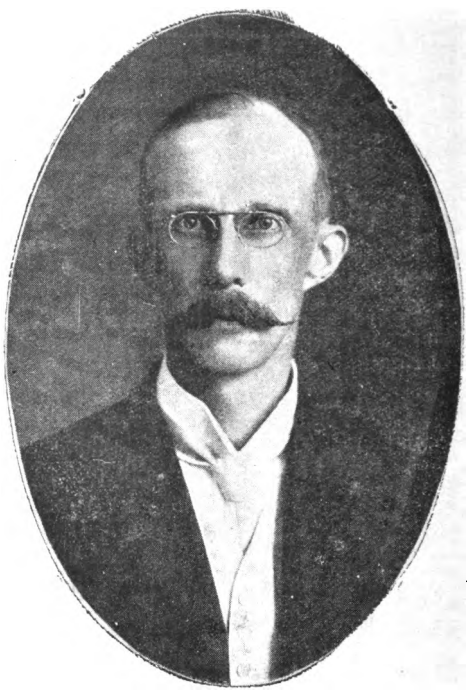
to the brilliant services of our stalwart captain Watcha, between the poles. He proved an excellent custodian, and from the way he stopped several lightning shots, we feel doubtful whether he actually stopped the ball or that the ball of itself sought his leg. But after all, it was a worthy performance seing that he was quite a beginner.



Prof. O. V. Muller

Our stay for five days at Bhooj formed one of the most enyoyable periods of our history; full of ease, merriment and comfort. If we could find places like Bhooj, where we could have dinners with champagne, a lunch time lasting for two hours, a long interval for tea and cakes, a rest for three days before beginning a ma tch, and an easy game where both sides do not

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score more than 100, it would be a sure road to an ideal tour. It is true, that we undertook the trip with no small amount of annoyance and danger, but for all that, we had a full share of the rich and princely reception that was so kindly accorded to us by H.H. the Maharao of Cutch and his sporting son Prince Vijayaraji Saheb.

On the morning of the 30th, we left Bhooj and arrived at Rajkote on the ensuing day. At Rajkote Profs. Muller and Colville left the team and proceeded straight to Bombay. We here take the opportunity of recording our best thanks to Prof. Muller for his great help throughout the tour. But for his strong insinuations and able efforts, we would never have crossed the creek, and would have missed the excellent treat that we had at Bhooj. Prof. Muller's keeness and interest in sports are proverbial and are too well known to Elphs. to need further mention at our hands. He has been in charge of the gymkhana since 1892 and during the course of these years he has vigilently guarded its interest and treasury. He has been like a fairy god-father to our gymkhana and has given the advantage of his counsel, patronage and untiring energy and perseverance. If any day an Elph. may think of compiling a history of our gymkhana, the services of Prof. Muller may well be written in letters of gold.

After a day's halt at Rajkote, we arrived at Bombay on the morning of the 1st Jan. 1910.

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Elph. College on field, Ooty

CHAPTER IX.

The South East Tour.

1910.

Period 17 days. Miles 2225.

TEAM.

Mr.	P. H. Judge. (Capt.)	Mr.	D. K. Kapadia.
Dr.	H. D. Gimi.	,,	N. C. Kapadia.
Mr.	M. B. Watcha.	,,	A. P. Sabawala.
,,	F. S. Doctor.	,,	R. J. Tata.
,,	B. F. Mehta.	,,	J. J. Batliwala.
,,	S. M. Chothia.	,,	H. D. Karaka.
,,	A. R. Driver.	,,	Jam. D. Antia. (Hony. Sec. & Treasr.)

With six years' touring we had exhausted nearly all the principal cricket centres of India; a repetition of some of the places already visited was therefore more or less unavoidable in framing the programme of the tour confined within the four corners

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of India. Cricket though primary has however not been the sole object of our tours ; the other object collateral with the main purpose, has been to give the Elphs. the benefit of education by travelling. In mapping out therefore the route of a tour, the latter object has not been lost sight of by the secretary and no pains have been spared to include as far as possible places noted either for historic fame or scenic beauty. This tour besides repeating Bangalore and Kolar covered visits to Ootacamund, the beautiful hill station on the Nilgiris, and Madras, the first city of the South. The card was convenient and interesting and comprised four fixtures, quite good enough to offer an interesting and busy time to the lovers of the game.

The accounts of the tours of the previous years have shown that the interest in the tour has been well maintained. Not a few colts have leaped into fame and have aided the side. The retirement of some of our best tourists Mody, Neksat, Parekh, N. Vakil within a short period of two years, could not but tell on the strength of the team. Still there are veterans, who show no lack of interest and loss of power and we have always relied on their loyal services for the main support on tour. Mulla, the sheet anchor of our tour, was unable to join through some unaccountable reason while the absence of Jeh. Antia greatly reduced the effective bowling strength of the team. Our team was not sufficiently strong especially in bowling and the general expression of opinion was that it would not successfully undergo the ordeal of a severe strain that was expected against the strong teams we were playing.

On the night the 17th Dec. we left Victoria Terminus by the Madras Mail, for Bangalore. The journey though long and uneventful was comfortable. A day's run brought us to Guntakal and after changing at this station we arrived at Bangalore on the morning of the 19th. We stayed at the Grand Hotel. It was a new establshment, comfortable and well managed, though the fact that we were the only visitors, showed that it was far from having a prosperous concern. This was rather natural as it is hard for

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a newly started concern to flourish at a place teeming with boarding houses.

The climate of Bangalore is known for its healthiness and it was quite a merry and pleasant day that we spent sauntering about the city and bustling from the Lal Bag to the Bazar and and from the Bazar to the Fort and from the Fort to various historic places. In the evening we played a tennis tournament against some well known Bangalore players. Bangalore is a city of tennis courts and the standard of the game there is rather high. Our team was without the services of our best player F. Doctor, who arrived a day later from Rangoon and had therefore to be content with a severe defeat at their hands. Tennis is more of a national game with the Bangalories and as one of them remarked " We play tennis in Bangalore just as the Parsees do cricket in Bombay."

On the 20th and 21st, we played the first of the four fixtures against the All Bangalore Combined Team on the United Service Club ground. The hostile team was selected from the various clubs of the place and was fairly strong in all departments of the game. We won the toss and batted first. The start was bad, our top batsmen failing to come off. This has often been the case and will be so, as long as luck plays a part in the game. Chothia, our best bat, had bad luck in dropping his hat on the stumps in attempting to stop a ball which rose shoulder high. He felt dissatisfied with the verdict which was against him, though we are all one with the umpire, who averred that the hat fell simultaneously with the action and not after it. The highest aggregate of our side fell to J. Batliwala, who made a successful *debut* on the tour, by carrying his bat for a useful score of 38. Pillay bowled well for the opponents and was responsible for 8 wickets with an average of 6 runs a piece. Their innings was short-lived and realized 61. In our seconds innings we lost 6 wickets for 45. But our tail wagged in a spirited fashion and

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A. Driver. S. Chothia. R. Tata. N. Kapadia. D. Kapadia.

TEAM 1910.

H. Gimi. J. Antia. P. Judge. (Capt) M. Watcha. B. Mehta.
J. Batliwala. H. Karaka. A. Sabawala. F. Doctor.

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made a bold attempt to hit up a big score. Kapadia brilliantly punished the bowlers who seemed to be in the ascendent. His full shoulder drives were things of beauty, and when once past the fielder, the most agile and active could not overtake them. He is one of the six brilliant cracks, which the College has

Todas

supplied to Bombay. Though many Elphs. heroes may have advantage over him in point of variety of strokes, still in sheer vigour, he stands more or less unrivalled. He even excels Mulla ; for the latter is more a high hitter than a hard hitter.

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Mulla's sixer describes a semicircle while that of Kapadia a sharp are. Next to Kapadia's batting the partnership of Watcha and Judge was most useful. The former banged freely without really going in for risky hitting. Each of them scored 48 and 46 in an hour's time. Perhaps it might come as news to some that Judge played in a brisk style. He is well known as a stonewaller, but at times he attempts to hit even at the risk of losing his wickets when lack of time renders such a course imperative. His game is always characterised by the principle of 'play for the side'.

The Bangalories as expected gave a better account of their batting. Yogan played in good style ; but he never looked like settled even after his stay for more than an hour. The ground during the fourth innings was really bad, and our bowlers made the most of those favourable conditions. The ball bumped and broke in the most tricky way and run-getting was attended with considerable difficulty. It is really high praise for their batting that they scored 146 under such adverse circumstances. We won by 126 runs.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Chothia, b Pillay	20	b Pillay	9
A. Driver, c Viraswami, b Pillay ...	2	c Pillay, b Sudarsanam ...	1
J. Batliwala, not out	38	b Pillay, ...	7
D. Kapadia b Sudarsanam	5	b Mc. Call	48
H. Gimi, c Mc. Call, b Pillay	24	st Sudarsanam	6
Jam. Antia, b Pillay	2	st Sudarsanam	7
N. Kapadia, b Pillay	5	lbw Pillay	0
P. Judge, b Pillay	0	not out	46
R. Tata, b Pillay	0	did not bat	
A. Sabawala, lbw Pillay	15	not out	16
M. Watcha, did not bat		b Mc. Call	48
Extras	12	Extras ...	22
Total ...	123	Total (8 wkts.)	210

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Pillay	21	2	55	8	18	3	52	3
Mc. Call	7	0	13	0	8	2	24	2
Sudarsanam	2	3	31	1	20	5	61	3
Rambrahman	3	0	8	0	5	1	9	0
Smith	2	0	4	0	4	0	31	0
Singaram	...	...	...	...	1	0	11	0

ALL BANGALORE UNITED.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Viraswami, b Driver	... ...	12	c Chothia, b Driver	... 18
Singaram, lbw Watcha	... ...	18	b Watcha	... 11
Capt. Watling, b Driver	... ...	0	b Tata	... 26
Iswaram, b Driver	... ...	0	b Driver	... 2
Yogan, b Watcha	... ...	4	b Watcha	... 33
Capt. Mc. Call, b Watcha	... ...	0	st Antia b Watcha ...	... 9
Padmanabhau, b Driver	.. ...	0	b Tata	... 0
Rambrahman, b Driver	... ...	8	b Driver	... 10
Pillay, b Driver...	... ...	0	b Driver	... 9
Smith, not out	... ...	13	b Watcha	... 7
Sudarsanam, st Antia, b Watcha	...	3	not out	... 2
Extras	.. ...	3	Extras	... 19
	Total	61		Total 146

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	11	2	26	4	22	4	43	4
Driver	10	0	32	6	15	0	58	4
Tata	...	...	...	...	7	0	26	2

On the morning of the 22nd, we left Bangalore, and after changing trains at Bowringpet arrived at the Kolar Gold Fields to play against the very team, which had defeated us during our previous visit in 1904. Never for a moment did we think while alighting at the station that there was such a lot of amusing discomfort and unknown reverses in store for us. Our arrival had taken the hosts somewhat by surprise, for through some regretable error, they expected us a day later. As we entered the Dak Bangalow, where hasty arrangements were made for us, the amusing reminiscences of the memorable night at Sialkote, came surging

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back on the mind. We were left in charge of a European manager whom we nick-named 'Coal Ton.' He became a favourite with the team, and did what a man could do to make us comfortable. Our members are accustomed to "rough it" and do not insist too closely on the luxary of the 'Taj' or the perfection of 'Green's' though on this occasion, relying on the experence of their last visit, they were well supplied with dinner suits and pump shoes and all the paraphernalia of a 'high class' dinner,—luxuries upto now unknown on tour. In the afternoon we paid a visit to the gold mines and returned to the bungalow late in the evening, but not till one of our members, who happened to get astray from the party, had undergone the painful ordeal of having his pockets examined at the gates.

The state of the commissariat, despite the several visits of Mr. 'Coal Ton' to the bazaar, remained unsatisfactory and the table was again the scene of a long and contiunal struggle for existence. But hardly this struggle was decided when the bugs and fleas issued on the war path. Quite a huge battalion of these murderous beings had mysteriously laid themselves in ambush, unknown to the Intelligence Department of Mr. 'Coal Ton' within every fold of the miserable *charpaies*, which by their creaking noise showed unmistakable signs of old age. With a bottle of eau de cologne and a can of kerosene oil, we took action against the enemies. The battle was hard and long and when at mid-night our liquid ammunition was exhausted, we acknowledged ourselves beaten. With a satisfactory anathema on those blood-thirsty insects and with a *codicile* to include the *khansama* and the manager, we left our beds and retired to the uncovered floor in the hall. The whole team took the situation from a philosophic point of view, "What cannot be cured must be endured" and in their philosophic stupor laid their wearied limbs, like defeated warriors on the field. Harder beds and scantier food we have never experienced in life.

Next morning found us dull and uncomfortable; and after fortifying ourselves with what Mr. 'Coal Ton' called 'a hearty

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breakfast' we started for the cricket field. But lo ! a long train of seven *Jetkas* (bullock carts) arrayed the compound, as we issued from the bungalow. At first we thought that they were meant for our luggage; but their number was great and our surprise greater when we were asked to sit in them. But how to sit in the grotesque and antiquated *gondolos* of Kolar was was a source of never-ending puzzle to us. The *jetkas* were ordinary agricultural conveyances with a very low roof. They were meant to carry two and the proper style, as explained by Mr. 'Coal Ton' was to sleep in pairs. Not caring to sacrifice our limbs to the ignominous posture, we walked down the distance to the cricket field. But here in justice to our kind hosts, the Kolar Gold Fields C. Club, we may say that extreme sympathy and regret were expressed by the members for the long list of annoyances that we suffered and prompt measures were taken to set the whole house in order.

Late in the morning of the 23rd, we began the match. We won the toss. Batliwala greatly aided the Kolar side by getting three of our good bats run out. His calls for runs were faulty and lacking in judgment. When he himself got out, one of the opponents very humorously remarked, "Very unfortunate, we have lost our best friend." At 108-8-5, Sabalvala joined Doctor and changed the aspect of the game. He hit twelve 4's and severely punished Grundy, who was bowling steadily with a deadly aim. He played the innings of his life and scored 66 with a chanceless and faultless game, the fault perhaps lying with the opponents' captain in not covering his mid-long strokes, which proved both powerful and productive. The home team had practically no tail, But of all, Bocquet and Morris-Davis were particularly attractive, both of whom scored 34 & 37. In our 2nd innings, Watcha was the top scorer by 41. By dint of assiduous practice and with a little amount of natural talent, which was considerably cured and developed by Cuffe, the Worcestershire Pro., he had improved his batting to an appreciable extent ; and though his usual place was amongst tail enders, still on this tour he vendicated his

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Elph. College vs. Ooty Club

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claims to be included amongst the stock batsmen of the team. Driver was coolness itself and never seemed ruffled either by the slow tricky ones of Watters or the hard mechanical ones of Grundy. The bowling of Grundy was amazingly steady and his striking analysis deserves a special mention. He had 28 overs, 19 maidens and 4 wickets at a loss of 24 runs. Chothia and Kapadia were again off colour; the former being dismissed for a brace of ducks. However in justice to him, it may be remarked that he never looked comfortable in this match. His illness at Bangalore added to the nasty knock about of the previous night had taken too much out of his fragile and delicate constitution. His performance on the field could not therefore be a satisfactory one.

At 137-8-7 closure was applied. The Kolar were left with one hour and 55 minutes to score 216, a Hymalayan task. But it seemed we had declared when Kolar bats were in a most aggressive mood, for they were bent on breaking the back of that hard task. Both Bocquet and Morris Davis started well. At 20 Bocquet gave an easy chance to Batliwala. But the ill fated catch was lost and together with it the match also. Both played a most verulent hitting game and the runs rose on the board with amazing rapidity. Fours were the order of the day and the maidens were conspicuous by their absence. Bocquet was very aggressive and the ball flew from his bat like a golf shot, causing a thrill of nervousness to pass through the fielders who happened to be near it. Morris Davis, besides being fast, was more of a finished type of batsmen. He was a masterhand at square cutting and there was scarcely any stroke which he could not make, when the chance occurred. When Bocquet got out we had yet a chance, but we steadily lost ground and within 20 minutes more the match was lost. At 153-3-37 we began to feel that the match was slipping out of our grasp ; but we least expected to have the result against us. There were 65 runs to score but the total was surpassed within 35 minutes tenure of the wickets ; the hard scoring being in no small measure due to Jones without whom nothing like an average of 119 an hour could have resulted. The

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quick rate of scoring and the uncertainty of the result remained the same till the last moment There was an over left but gold miners succeeded in scoring the required runs. We lost by 4 wickets and 3 runs,

Our captain came in for a great deal of chaff for declaring as the critics say, rather early. Even making allowance for their high scoring capacity and the fast nature of the ground, no body present on the spot could have thought that the miners would rattle up. 216 in 115 minutes, and if they did, the most captious must not cavil at their victory, which they richly deserved. If there was any fault, it lay with the bowlers, who lost their heads and bowled straight ones to players bent on hitting at any cost. Tata alone shouldered the burden of the whole attack, and at a critical moment, when the miners were having their own way with the bowling, he was responsible for all the six wickets. The Kolar team provided a record of the most rapid scoring. This indeed came as a surprise after the way they played their first innings. But the game is full of surprises and uncertainties.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Jam. Antia, b Watters	17	c Blanford, b Grundy ...	14
A Driver, b Grundy	14	c Kapadia, b Grundy ...	34
J. Batliwala, b Grundy	21	c Richards, b Grundy ...	9
S. Chothia, b Grundy	0	b Grundy	0
H. Gimi, run out	11	b Jones	4
D. Kapadia, c Bocquet. b Watters ...	7	c Richards, b Jones ...	0
M. Watcha, run out	17	not out	41
P. Judge, run out	5	not out	10
F. Doctor, b Jones	15	st Blanford, b Watters ...	7
A. Sabawala, c & b Grundy	66	c Kapadia, b Watters ..	5
R. Tata, not out	4	did not bat	0
Extras	19	Extras	13
Total ...	196	Total (8 wkts.)	137

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Grundy	31	11	56	4	28	19	24	4
Watters	14	5	47	2	16	1	69	2
Jones	7	3	17	1	11	4	31	2
Richards	5	1	13	0	...	...	...	...
Everitt	7	1	30	0	...	...	...	...
Carlton	3	0	14	0	...	...	...	...

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS C. C.

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
R. Bocquet, b Watcha	...	34	b Tata	55
G. Jones, c Judge, b Driver	...	1	c N. Kapadia, b Tata	5
R. Carlton, b Driver	...	7	c N. Kapadia, b Tata	37
A. Jones, c Sabawala, b Driver	...	26	not out	31
V. Grundy, c & b Driver	...	3	not out	13
C. Richards, c Sabawala, b Driver	...	0	c Chothia, b Tata	18
P. Morris Davis, l b w Watcha	...	37	c Chotia, b Tata	56
B. Wilson, b Driver	...	0	b Tata	0
A. Blanford, b Driver	...	0	did not bat.	
G. Everitt, b Watcha	...	2		
D. Watters, not out	...	7		
	Extras	0	Extras	7
	Total	117	Total (6 wkts.)	222

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	15	0	60	3	10	0	53	0
Driver	14	0	57	7	16	0	96	0
Batliwala	...	...	...	...	3	0	11	0
Tata	..	...	...	...	13	0	46	6
Tabawala	...	...	...	...	1	0	9	0

On the night of the 24th we left the place where *Kismet* had been unkind to us during every moment of our stay. The journey from Kolar to Ooty though short was full of busy transhipments. At midnight we changed at Jalarpet for the Mettapullyam Mail for Ooty. The team rose from its half wakeful stupor as the pealing of the station bells greeted the change of the date and the advent of the Xmas day. The next morning we found ourselves being hurriedly carried through a pleasant picture of the most fertile forests. But the thing that struck us most on the jour-

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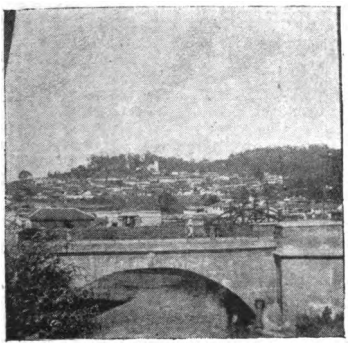
ney was the cacophonous names of the stations, long and jaw-breaking; Periyanaikanpalaiyam was long enough to try the elocutionary powers of our best stage orators. At about 9 in the morning we entered the Nilgiri Ry., the most uptodate mountain Ry. in India. The gauge is metre but there is a third tooth rail to prevent the train from gliding down on steep gradients. A run on the line was full of interest. The whole region at the foot of the hill is swampy and full of thick vegetation. But amidst the green foliage of the giant tropical trees, the shady groves formed of the tapering and symmetrical giant and dwarf palms, were particularly conspicuous. The palm groves, gradually disappeared as we ascended, to make room for the stately Eucalyptus trees, for which the hills are famous. At three in the evening we arrived at Ooty, the "Queen of Hill Stations."

The Royal Hotel at which we stayed was as convenient as any fastidious tourist could desire, and the fact that its proprietor Mr. C. Cama was kind, courteous and obliging greatly added to the general comfort of the team. In the evening we visited the Government Gardens, one of the beauty spots of Ooty. On the the skirts of the garden, are the huts of the Todas, the wild aboriginal tribes of Southern India. The life of the wild Todas isvery primitive and simple. They live in small huts of wicker-works, which have an extremely narrow doorway, which admits the inmates and the necessary air and light for their existence. The Todas are a handsome race; polyandry is common; the female member enjoying the most enviable privilege of having six or seven husbands or perhaps more.



Snapshot from N. M. Ry

The Xmas day was very pleasantly passed. After dinner we had a small concert round a bright and cheerful fire, in which the

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lady members of Mr. Cama's family played the principal part. The weather was as enjoyable as the merry company, but as the night approached, the gradually increasing wrappings round of our Captain (the team's weather glass) showed that the silvery liquid was fast running to the freezing point. In the night the temperature was as low as 29°.

On the 26th and 27th we played the Ooty Club on their ground. The day was an ideal one for cricket. The weather was simply delightful; thin wooly clouds tempered the sun, which blazed in mild fury on the woody hills, surrounding the field, in the midst of which we looked like performers in an amphitheatre. The whole scene was highly picturesque. But the crowning glory of it was the presence of numerous Parsee ladies, the so called butterflies of Bombay, who by their gorgeous *sarees* in colours as varied and beautiful as those of the rain bow, added a peculiar charm to the place. Never have we played cricket amidst such beatific surroundings and this was perhaps one of the reasons which led to our easy victory.

The Ooty Club began well. The ground was soft and slow, and the fact that the balls of neither Watcha or Driver could catch pace, enabled Reynolds to play back with ease and score well on the midlong and leg. As the ground dried up, Watcha proved very effective and except Henderson the rest failed to do anything. Our innings was remarkable for the partnership of Driver and Chothia, which resulted in the score of 93 runs. We have never seen Driver play such a forcing innings as this one, in which he scored 68 with equal pace with Chothia, who played for 58 in his usual breezy style. Judge played a steady game and going in at the fall of the fifth wicket was the last to get out. But our score would not have reached the envyable figure of 178, had Andrews been put on earlier. He opened when our total was 100 and took 7 for 29.

On this tour we had entirely to depend for bowling on Watcha, Driver and Tata. Sabawala though included purely as a

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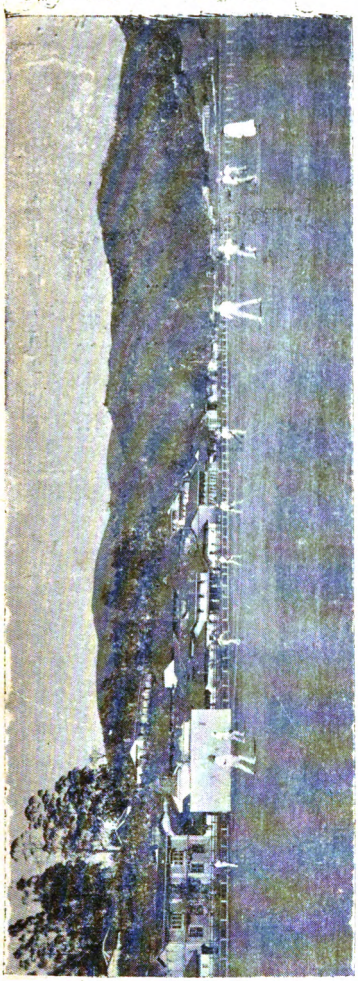
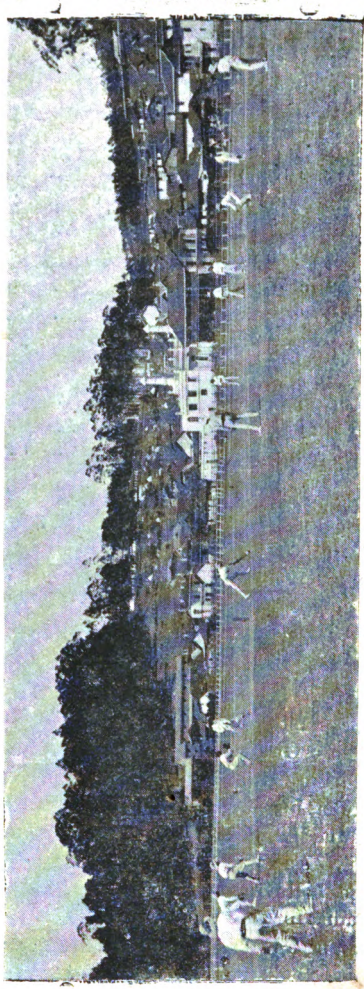
bowler did not prove successful. In his present style he has a lot of pace but no direction or science and trusts more to the ball to seek the wicket than to his arm which delivers it. Both Watcha and Tata



Elph. College in batting Ooty



Elph. College on field. Ooty

failed in the second innings, but Driver found the spot and marked it again and again. He was deadly for sometime. Capt. Plumer played well for 48 though he had the advantage of a new life

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during the middle of his career. Swaminath proved to be the hitter of his side. He made several hard pulls and drove the ball to the boundary for no less than seven times. But the salient feature of their innings was the brilliant catching of Batliwala, who fielding as a substitute held 5 smart catches, quite a record by the way. We scored the necessary 83 and won the match by 6 wickets.

OOTACAMUND CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
H. Phillips, c Driver, b Watcha ...	2	b Tata	10
C. Plumer, c Kapadia, b Driver ...	10	c Batliwala, b Driver ...	48
H. Reynolds, c Judge, b Watcha ...	41	b Tata	5
S. Cox, c Gimi, b Watcha	4	run out	0
Sergt. Bayly, run out	0	c Batliwala, b Driver ...	4
Col. Gunn, c Watcha, ...	0	b Driver	1
Swaminath, c Tata	12	not out	39
G. Henderson, not out	27	b Tata	15
A. McCarthy, b Tata	3	c Batliwala, b Watcha ...	2
Capt. Andrews, c Chothia, b Tata ...	0	c Batliwala, b Driver ...	0
Capt. Harris, b Tata	1	c Batliwala, b Driver ...	7
Extras ...	12	Extras	18
Total ...	112	Total ...	149

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha	17	3	52	4	16	2	46	1
Driver	13	1	46	1	14	5	40	5
Tata	6	5	2	4	14	5	27	3
Sabawala	...	..	...	...	4	0	18	0

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. Driver, c Gunn, b Andrews ...	68	c Plumer, b Reynolds ...	16
S. Chothia, c Gunn, b Andrews ...	58	c & b Harris	14
M. Watcha, b Andrews ...	0	c & b Harris	19
D. Kapadia, b Andrews	0	not out	13
H. Gimi, b Andrews	2	c Gunn, b Reynolds ...	9
P. Judge, b Reynolds	28	not out	4
N. Kapadia, lbw Mc Carthy ..	12		
A. Sabawala, c Gunn, b Andrews ...	0	did not bat.	
F. Doctor, c substitute, b Reynolds	0		
R. Tata, c Cox, b Andrews ...	3		
B. Mehta, not out	4		
Extras	2	Extras	10
Total ...	177	Total (4 wkts.)	85

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Reynolds ...	14	4	35	2	11	3	30	2
McCarthy ...	8	1	41	1	...	...	...	...
Swaminath ...	6	0	33	0	...	...	...	...
Harris ...	4	2	4	0	8	1	36	2
Phillips ...	5	0	20	0	...	...	...	...
Andrews ...	16	0	27	7	3	0	9	0
Henderson ...	3	0	15	0	...	...	...	...

On the morning of the 28th, we prepared for our departure, feeling quite loath to leave the charming hill station with its balmy weather, its Eucalyptus woods, its shady avenues and its beautiful downs and dales. On the morning of the next day we arrived at Madras and were lodged at the Commercial Hotel, a place since become famous during the recent strike as the trysting place of the members of the A. S. R. S. After our stay in the cold of Ooty, the climate of Madras with its average temperature of 7°5 was not enjoyable and the fact that the hotel was situated in a crowded locality did not add much to our comfort. An outing even in a carriage proved thirsty work. The places of interest at Madras are few and far between, but at times a mere historic reference gives a passing attraction to the place ; and so we went to throw a glance at the St. Mary's Church, simply because Lord Clive was married ther e.

Fountain Ooty.

On the 30th and 31st, we played the United C. Club, one of the strongest teams in the Madras Presidency. The ground was perfect, hard and fast ; a batsman's paradise. We won the toss and ran up a high total of 185. On this occasion our best bats Kapadia and Chothia, realised the expectations formed of them. Each player batted in his characteristic style. The former showed the power of his brawny shoulders by his hard drives, while the latter exhibited more of wrist work by his graceful cuts

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and glances. The combination of these two kinds of play was very exhilarating and the spectators had quite a merry time during the time they stayed in. Both had obtained a complete mastery over the bowling but Kapadia proved a little too hasty and launched out at a good length ball and was smartly snapped behind the sticks. Chothia took the loss of his clubmate seriously and got out immediately. Once more Chothia had to go without a century, when he was so near it. When he returned to the pavilion some of the Madrasi players declared that they had not seen a better innings than his. Give Chothia, a hard and true wicket and he is as consistent as Homi Kanga ; give Chothia the strength of Kapadia and he would excel our great champion Major Mistry. With two hours more for play, the U. C. C. commenced their innings and when stumps were drawn had scored 39-2-6.

But the steady tactics to which they resorted on the first day and followed up the next day, deprived the match of its interest. Kulaskaram was particularly annoying and seemed to have an eye on six days' business. Fortunately he got run out for 22 after staying in for more than three hours. Subramaniam was the only bat who showed real enterprise and played in a lively and attractive style. He got out to a very queer decision. Driver bowled a straight ball on the third stump and the player tried to glance it. The ball grazed the leg and went to the boundary. Our umpire F. Doctor declared a boundary without signalling the leg bye. However our wicket-keeper Antia felt doubtful and before the next ball, appealed for L. B. W. and he was declared out. The player protested against the decision on the ground that the umpire in the first instance had not signalled a leg bye but a hit. But this is one of the several instances in which the umpire has to use his discretion and no where could the ruling that the umpire shall be the judge of fair and unfair play apply with greater force than on this occasion. Our umpire very plausibly gave his explanation for not signalling a leg bye, for had he done so, it would have been tantamount to throwing a hint for the appeal of L. B. W. There was a cessation of play during the time the discussion lasted ; but in the end the batsman

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felt satisfied with the decision. But here we cannot help remarking on the most sporting behaviour of the crowd. During the time the discussion lasted the crowd maintained a neutral silence, There was no 'barracking' or ruthless jeers at the umpire. On the contrary, when the batsman retired, their cheers showed that they had accepted the decision in a sporting way. After the departure of Subramaniam, the U.C.C relapsed into utter inactivity and made no effort to increase the score. It was simply a duel between the bat and the ball. There was too much gentility even with half-volleys and short pitched balls, which our bowlers were obliged to give to prevent the fielders from having a nap. At four in the evening their last citadel fell : they scored 120 after being in possession of the wickets for over 6 hours. We doubt whether the records of the tour have anything to parallel this slow game. There were 34 maidens and only 4 boundaries and that too on a fast ground where a push between the fielders would mean a four. After this experience, we think there is much to commend in Spofforth's suggestion, that the batting side should be penalised two runs for every maiden. This alone would have prevented them from playing a game which was not at all warrantable under the circumstances. Of course there are circumstances when a slow and patient game is necessary, but these were untirely absent on this occasion. The match was a dull drawn game.

ELPH. COLLEGE. 1st Innings.		MADRAS UNITED CLUB. 1st Innings.	
Jam. Antia, lbw Gunapatty ...	0	Kulaskaram, run out	30
A. Driver, b Cherry	4	Raghawala, b Driver	6
J. Batliwala, b Gunapatty	10	Ethirajalu,b Driver	8
M. Watcha, b Cherry	6	Subramaniam, l b w Driver ...	18
S. Chotha c Bungara b Gunapatty	84	C. Krishnaswamy, c Antia, b Driver	6
D. Kapadia, st Mtu.,b Sabramaniam	36	Gunapatty, c Antia, b Driver ...	1
H. Gimi, b Gunapatty	14	Bungarababoo,c Batliwala, b Driver	22
P. Judge, b Cherry	5	Luxmanrao, c Watcha, b Driver...	15
A. Sabawala, c Bungara, b Cherry.	7	P. Krishnaswamy, b Tata... ...	8
N. Kapadia, b Cherry	2	P. Mithu, run out	6
R. Tata, not out	8	R. Cherry, not out	0
Extras	9	Extras	22
Total ...	185	Total ...	145

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Gunapatty ...	21	9	39	4	Watcha ...	31	10	39	0
Cherry... ...	16	1	69	5	Driver	50	20	57	7
C. Krisnaswamy	9	0	36	0	Tata	18	4	27	1
P. Krishnaswamy	4	0	10	0					
Subramaniam ...	7	0	31	0					

With an hour more to spare ; it was decided to abandon the match and to have a game of hockey. But the well-organised attacks of the Madras team proved too strong for our defence and before half time six goals were registered. We had begun the match in fun, and we meant to end it so. We had already had a hard day's work on the cricket field and felt too tired to stand the severe strain of the game. Just fifteen minutes before the whistle to go, the full backs and the goal-keeper quietly left the field. The opponents' forwards came in full on-set for another attack, when a loud roar of laughter from the spectators revealed that they were running on a wild goose chase : the goal and its out posts had been deserted.

The U. C. C., whose guests we were at Madras, had given us quite a happy three days' enjoyment, and we were much impressed by the sporting spirit of all their members, Our thanks are particularly due to Mr. P. S Mithu, who was our constant friend and guide during our rambles in the Southern Capital.

On the night of the 31st, we left Madras and arriving at Bombay on the 2nd Jan. completed a 'successful tour' as the 'Madras Mail' calls it. Driver was its hero and throughout its operations did useful work with the bat and the ball. Next in order of merit was Watcha, whose batting form came as a surprise to us. He did continually well till he could claim to be the equal of Chothia in average. This was not however at the sacrifice of bowling, for he did equally well in that capacity. Chothia by his good innings at Ooty and Madras made ample amends for his bad start. Kapadia showed occasional glimpses of his batting excellence but never shone with his reputed brilliancy. Judge again revealed himself as a capable

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and popular captain ; although at Kolar it was more his misfortune than his fault that he declared the innings rather early. He is the most zealous and enthusiastic captain that ever led the College team ; and his zeal while in the field is infectious, for it is seldom that one finds a fielder inactive when he is present on the field. He is a captain who would fight to the end and his side is not lost till the winning stroke is made. He belongs to the cricketers of old days and though he was not given the highest

P. H. Judge

honour which the game could bestow, of playing in the representative contests, he did very useful work for the college for a series of years. He played several brilliant innings on tour, but he never showed the rungetting capacity of his early days, when he was reckoned as a fast scoring bat. He has been the Nestor of the College cricket and many young Elphs. owed their rise in the game through his excellent coaching and advice.

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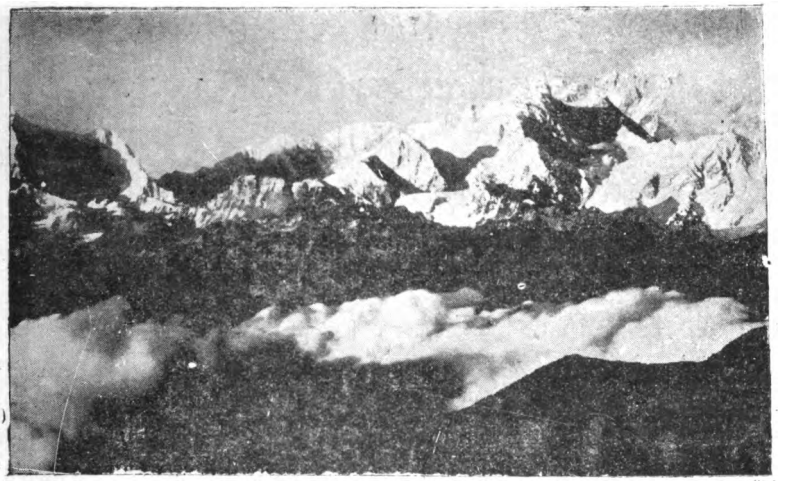

Snow Hills, Darjeeling

CHAPTER X.

The Great Eastern Tour.

1911.

Period 23 days. Miles. 3238

TEAM.

Mr.	M. B. Watcha. (Capt.)	Mr.	A. H. Wadia.
Prof.	P. B. Watcha.	,,	D. K. Kapadia.
Dr.	H. D. Gimi.	,,	R. J. Tata.
Mr.	P. H. Daver.	,,	N. C. Kapadia.
,,	H. F. Mulla.	,,	H. D. Karaka.
,,	Jeh. D. Antia.	,,	B. K. Allbless.
,,	S. M. Chothia.	,,	Jam. D. Antia.
,,	A. R. Driver.		(Hon. Sec. & Treasr.)

This was the memorable year of the Great Delhi Durbar and during the busy month of December, one idea engrossed the mind and attention of Indians and that was to welcome the Great *Badeshah* of United India to the Indian soil for the first time in

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its history. It was therefore with no little trepidation that a tour during the busy month was contemplated. Both the North and South have been fertile fields for cricket. Our previous visit had already been to the South, and as the idea of arranging fixtures with the teams of the Princes of the North, engaged in the Durbar, was wholly out of the question, the East was the only possible direction to which we could direct our sporting crusade. Unfortunately our route lay through the provinces over which Their Imperial Majesties were to perform their state visits and quite an abnormal amount of difficulties cropped up both in the way of arranging fixtures and finding hospitable roofs. But the strenuous efforts were well crowned with success and resulted in an excellent and interesting programme, for which our thanks are mainly due to Mr. N. F. Nalladaroo of Calcutta, who took upon himself to arrange three fixtures at Calcutta and an excursion to Darjeeling. The fixtures were five in all but the pick of them were those against Calcutta C. Club and the Bengal Gymkhana. The College was also well represented on this occasion and there was scarcely an absentee of any note.

On the night of the 16th December, we left Victoria Terminus by the Calcutta Mail. After an uneventful journey of 18 hours, we halted at Jubbulpore, to enable us to reach Allahabad during the convenient hours of the morning. We had a long drive through the city, which as we came to know later on, was devastated by the ravages of plague. What a picture of desolation ! The streets were silent, the houses deserted and the doors marked with the grim letters U. H. H., while the rumbling of our tonga wheels echoed most fearfully amidst the desolate surroundings. We were not at all sorry to leave the place and arrived at Allahabad on the morning of the 18th.

Our hosts and antagonists at this place were the Muir Central College, one of whose representatives Prof. Maheshwar Pershad had very kindly come to the station to receive us in the cold early

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hours of the morning. But whether the authorities had not received sufficient notice of our arrival, or whether they took us for Brahmin ascetics or for any other lamentable error, we found to our dismay that they were ill prepared for our reception. The temperature of the place during the early hours of the day was about 48° and the announcement by the monitor of the hostel that it was customary for all the guests there to take a cold bath, was enough to scare away our members and we were obliged to turn our backs on the somewhat uncomfortable quarters. We made our own arrangements at the Grand Hotel, close to the Railway Station.

Owing to the misunderstanding regarding our reception, the start of the match was deferred till the afternoon. During the course of our experience we have found that our performance during the opening match of the tour has always been far from satisfactory. Very little cricket is played in Bombay during that season and most of the members are under the stress of examinations or work. There is not therefore the necessary practice and bodily training, which is so essential for success on the field. Added to this, the start on the day of arrival after a long journey, goes a long way to seriously impair the efficiency of the team ; for on tour at least quite healthy condition is a very important factor on the results of our achievements.

We had the first innings and were not seen at our best. The only partnership of good duration was that of Mulla and Driver, who raised the score from 37 to 104. Mulla had a short but glorious reign and sparkled up 50 within less than 40 minutes. After their departure, the later wickets fell rapidly and our first effort closed for 119. The Muirs responded with 93 ; Mukerjee and Bhatacharia only scoring double figures. Mukerjee played a very cautious game and stayed in a long time to compile his 35.

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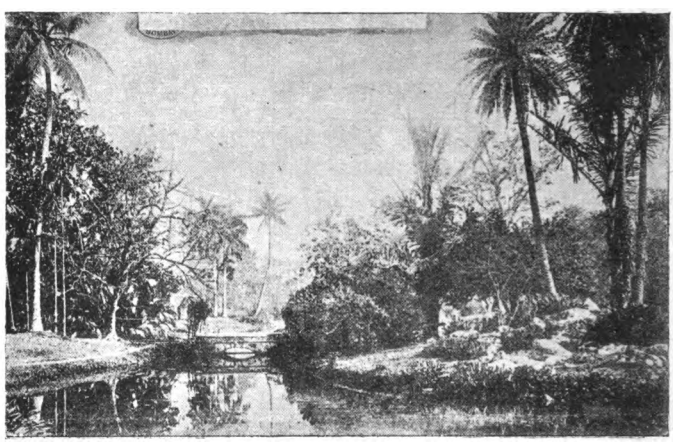
Our second innings was a positive debacle, the whole side going down for 44. The incident was reminiscent of a similar collapse at Bharatpur ; but on this occasion we had less to console ourselves, as the bowling was far too poor for those paltry figures. The ground was no doubt bad, but that alone could not account for our utter breakdown. It is one of the pranks of the game, which reveals the uncertainties that are least to be expected from its votaries. Our splendid batting quartette of Mulla, Chothia, Kapadia and Gimi failed totally. Daver's 23 being the most prominent in the long train of O's and single figures. The match was however very exciting at the close; the excitement being freely shared by their umpire, who gave constant tips to their



Eden Gardens, Calcutta

players and at times tried to decide the appeals at both ends. At 59-9-0, we felt the game passing into our hands. Prof. Lloyd made a dash for the runs and in his desperate efforts gave an easy chance on the long. But the catch was missed and our chance of winning also evaporated with it. We lost by a wicket and a run.

Our fielding was bad and the catch of Lloyd missed by Kapadia has emphasised the fact that bad catching on tour is for the most

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part due to the peculiar climatic conditions and glare, quite different from those at Bombay.

The whole match beyond the temporary excitement at the close was colourless ; Mulla's 51 being perhaps the only bright spot in it. The Muir College was by no means a better side, though the result flatters them. Excepting Bhatacharia, Lloyd, Shepherd and Mukerji, the rest were below the mediocre mark.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
P Daver, c Basu, b Shepherd ...	8	b Shepherd	23
S. Chothia, l b w Shepherd	7	b Shepherd	5
A. Wadia, b Shepherd	4	b Shepherd	0
H. Gimi, b Bhatacharia	1	b Shepherd	2
H. Mulla, c Mukerji, b Shepherd ...	51	c Wauchoo, b Shepherd ...	2
A. Driver, b Nariandas	13	b Shepherd	0
D. Kapadia, b Shepherd	0	l b w Nariandas	1
M. Watcha, c Basu, b Shepherd ...	14	c & b Nariandas	0
Jam. Antia, b Shepherd	0	not out...	0
R. Tata, b Nariandas	0	b Shepherd	0
Jeh. Antia, not out	0	b Nariandas	0
Extras	21	Extras	11
Total ...	119	Total ...	44

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Bhatacharia ...	13	5	42	1	...	...	...	...
Shepherd ...	18	2	48	7	9	0	16	7
Nariandas ...	5	1	8	2	9	3	17	3

MUIR CENTRAL COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Hamid Ullah, st Mulla, b Watcha ...	6	b Tata	0
P. Mukerji, b Tata	35	b Tata	9
Bhatacharia, st Mulla, b Watcha ...	19	run out...	27
C. Lloyd, b Tata	0	not out...	18
R. Shepherd, c Wadia, b Watcha ...	7	b Tata	0

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H. Wauchoo, c Chothia, b Watcha...	3	b Tata	7
S. Basu, b Tata	1	b Watcha	1
M. Bari, b Watcha	0	st Mulla, b Watcha	0
Gyashankar, st Mulla, b Watcha ...	7	run out	2
Nariandas, b Tata	3	st Mulla, b Watcha	1
Sherafat Hussein, not out	4	not out	4
Extras	8	Extras	2
Total	93	Total	71

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha ...	17	3	35	6	14	1	38	3
Antia ...	6	0	28	0	...	...	...	...
Driver ...	1	0	6	0	...	...	...	...
Tata	10	1	16	4	14	2	31	4

Next morning we had an excellent sail on the Jumna. To one uninitiated, a sail in a flat bottomed boat is accompanied by a queer sense of nervousness, which becomes manifested by the gingerly way in which he steps on board, feeling as if his weight is going to take the boat down to the bottom along with him. However, much of this disappeared in our case, as the boat glided smoothly over the crystal waters. We went as far as the *Sangam*, the confluence of the Jumna and the Ganges. The meeting could easily be descried. We could see the clear blue waters of the Jumna, throwing in their lot with the brown muddy waters of the elder sister Ganges. It is an anomaly hard to solve, why a thing should be contaminated and polluted by those very religious enthusiasts, who hold it in such high reverence. The treatment accorded to the holy waters is far from clean, but the general aspect is very striking and interesting, more so to Europeans, as it represents a typical picture of Indian life, pure and simple, as it existed ages before the Europeans dreamt of visiting India and even now unadulterated and untempered by the flow of Western Civilization.

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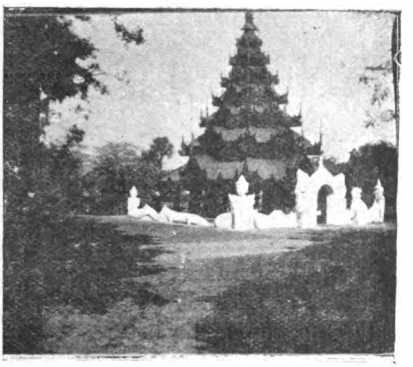
On the afternoon of the 20th we left Allahabad. We had great difficulty in finding suitable accommodation owing to the great flow of passengers, who were winding up their visit to the Delhi Durbar and were returning to Calcutta. In the evening we arrived at Benares. We owed the inclusion of this place in the tour programme to the kind invitation of Profs. Wodehouse and Telang, both active supporters of the College and its sports. The Central Hindoo College threw open its hospitable theosophical doors, and both the Elphs. were delighted to receive the members of the team, amongst whom they had passed some of their best days either on the cricket field or in the College hall. We stayed at Benares for 48 hours and except for a morning sail on the Ganges, we were too busy with the match.



Burmese Pagoda, Calcutta

On the 20th and 21st we played the Central Hindu College on their ground. The home College was without the services of Prof. Telang who was laid up with a sudden attack of pleurisy. His absence was keenly felt by their team, which felt itself maimed without his giant hand. The team was not strong, most of them being raw recruits, who had freshly begun cricket. Hockey and footer are the popular games with the students there and cricket owed its introduction to the efforts of the two Bombay professors. Prof. Wodehouse winning the toss, ran up a score of 30. He played with ease and confidence and by his long drives showed that he had not lost much of his old form. Bannerji played well and was well upto the mark ; but the rest made feeble attempts to score and were dismissed in a summary fashion. In batting too we had easy times and scored 167.

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Gimi again emphasised the good opinions formed of his consistency and played an unfinished innings of 42. How he has managed to shine consistently for so many years in succession is indeed a surprise. He is not so very well talented as Mulla, Chothia or Kapadia, but the secret of his success on tours is his infinite capacity of retaining his patience and of taking pains over his score. Surely no tourist goes in for the game more whole heartedly than Gimi, and whether he is playing against a school or first class team, or on matting or greensward, his innings is marked by the same assiduity and doggedness, which characterises a true and enthusiastic devotee of the game. But if one may well take pride in the performance of old tour heroes, surely nothing is more delightful than to see some of the new colts coming forward to claim the share of the glories of the tour. Allbless and Karaka played well and scored 27 and 15 respectively. The youngsters are yet in their teens and hold out good hopes ; the latter especially has high potentialities for further development as a good hitter. With such brawny shoulders at his command and with the addition of a few 'off' strokes, his hitting might prove formidable. But he must cure himself of his bad habit of pulling all sorts of balls and must be taught that the field is all round him and hitting is not confined to the 'on' side of it only, as in the case of youngsters at school, playing the 'three miss game' with the rubber ball. In their second innings their batting was frankly feeble. Daver had all of them at his mercy and his high 'ostrich lobs' proved too annoying to the Hindoo youngsters, who thought that they were full of *dagalbazi* and refused to mete out the slashing treatment which they deserved at times. We won by an innings and 45 runs.

CENTRAL HINDU COLLEGE.

1st Innings.			2nd Innings.		
Mahadho Singh, b Watcha ...	...	0	l b w Daver ...	...	0
Khanda Rao, c & b Watcha...	...	5	b Driver ...	...	13
B. Bannerji, c & b Watcha...	...	0	b Daver ...	...	2
E. Wodehouse, c Mulla, b Driver ...		33	c Mulla, b Daver ...	...	5

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D. Trilokekar, c Driver, b Daver ...	4	b Driver	6
S. Bannerji, c Chothia, b Driver ...	30	c Driver	1
Bishember Dutt, st Mulla, b Driver	1	not out	7
Narendarnar Singh, b Driver ...	0	c Driver, b Daver	4
Ram Rao, not out	0	b Daver	4
Moolchand, b Daver	0	b Driver	1
H. Verma, b Daver	0	st Mulla, b Daver	4
Extras	2	Extras	2
Total ...	75	Total ...	49

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W
Watcha	7	2	22	3	4	2	5	0
Driver	9	1	28	4	11	2	25	4
Daver	4	0	23	3	8	3	17	6

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

S. Chothia, c Bannerji, b N. Singh.	21
A. Driver, c Bannerji, b N. Singh ...	2
P. Daver, b Narendarnar Singh ...	0
H. Mulla, c B. Bannerji, b S. Bannerji	24
A. Wadia, c Dutt, b Narendarnar S.	2
H. Gimi, not out	41
D. Kapadia, b Narendarnar Singh ...	4
M. Watcha, run out	8
N. Kapadia, b Bannerji	0
B. Allbless, b Wodehouse	26
H. Karaka, b Narendarnar Singh ...	15
Extras	24
Total ..	167

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
N. Singh	18	0	57	6
Wodehouse	6	0	43	1
Bannerji	11	0	32	2
Mahadho S.	5	2	11	0

The Hindoo College had done everything within their power to make us feel at home and the two days that we stayed at Benares were merrily spent. Our old *Guru*, Prof. Wodehouse was particularly kind in looking after all our comforts, and the parting words uttered by him struck a note of something more than ordinary friendship. Certainly we have sadly missed him during the latter tours but as he expressed himself once, the day may not be far when work might spare him to lend his active service to tours again.

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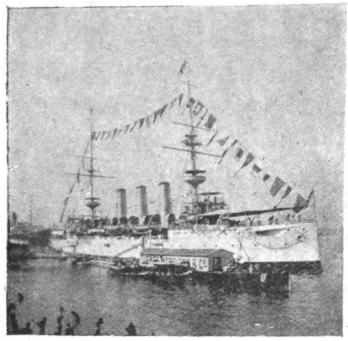
On the evening of the 23rd we arrived at Calcutta freshly shorn of its political glamour and glory. Though Calcutta and Benares are 400 miles apart, still the contrast between the two places is remarkable. While sailing down the Ganges with our eyes dwelling upon the sight of men and women bathing in the holy waters, of corpses burning on the *ghats* and devotees with their fantastic postures, we had felt ourselves in a world different from that of Bombay. At one bound we had passed out of the strange ancient atmosphere and were in the midst of the din and roar of the motely and essentially modern crowd of Calcutta. From an atmosphere of religion and other worldism we passed into one of commerce and mundane comforts. From mythology, we passed into history: from the mist of the past into the dust and glare of to-day. Ganges or Gungji as the reverent Benares Hindu usually calls it, is a name to conjure with, redolent of the poetry, mythology and religious enthusiasm of the Hindoos. Its tributary, on which stands the late metropolis of India, suggests coal trucks, cotton bales and wharves and jetties. The associations of Benares are prehistorical and divine; those of Calcutta are of yesterday. Yet Calcutta is more venerable than Bombay, the second city of the British Empire; for if the memories of Calcutta cannot go beyond the yesterday of Clive and Hastings, Bombay is only of to-day and has no historical yesterday to look back to.



Royal Cruiser in Hoogly

Of the three matches arranged at Calcutta, the first came off against the Presidency College and ended in a victory for our side by an innings and 61 runs. But before the result was achieved plenty of good cricket was played and witnessed. H. H. The Maharaja of Nattore, a very keen sportsman and a great patron of Bengali cricket, had very kindly lent us the use of his

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beautiful ground at Ballygunj. The pitch was perfect and plumb and the field surrounded by an array of palm vegetation, proved altogether an ideal spot for cricket. But the field itself was narrow and gave an advantage to players of Jessopian propensities. The start was good and gave promise of a big score. Daver, one of the most useful men of our side played a plucky innings, blending some hard drives with occasional late cuts. With the advent of Mulla, the score went up with a bound. His hitting was of a most virulent type. He pasted their bowling rather unmercifully and hit sixteen 4's in his innings. Apart from the hurricane hitting, his innings was a wonderful display of mighty batting, which for sheer brilliancy and vigour would be hard to surpass. He immortalised himself by making the record hit of the ground, which would have put to shame some of the best hits of Jessop or Bonneur. Surely nothing could be more spectacular than the giant hit, which went soaring right over the palmtree which rears its symmetrical foliage at the bowlers back side of the ground. Upto the last he played a chanceless and marvellous game and it is a pity that he should have spoilt such a valuable display by not completing his 100 when he was so near it.

The Presidency scored 81, the result of some good batting by C. Ali, the well known Mohomedan captain. The Presidency had certainly a better team than the one which played against us in 1901. Oaton, Roy and Bose were perhaps, the only players, who claim to be above the ordinary run of bats; but the rest showed poor cricket. Cricket has not yet taken a strong hold on the students there as in Bombay; but the game is gaining in popularity, thanks chiefly to the encouragement given by H.H. the Maharaja of Nattore, who delights to see the Bengali lads taking more to this manly game. His Highness was present throughout the match and entertained the team at lunch on both the days. He was delighted with Mulla's hitting and spoke very highly of our cricket and gave his opinion that Calcutta C. Club against whom we were playing next, must reveal all that was best in them to assert their superiority over our team.

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ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

S. Chothia, b Mukerji	...	12
A. Driver, b Mukerji	...	5
P. Daver, c and b Ali	...	33
H. Gimi, c and b Ali	...	39
H. Mulla, c Mohomed, b Bose	...	83
A. Wadia, lbw Mukerji	...	9
D. Kapadia, b Ali	...	1
M. Watcha, b Mukerji	...	21
B. Allbless, b Ali	...	10
Jeh. Antia, not out	...	5
R. Tata, b Mukerji	...	0
Extras	...	14
Total		232

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Guha	8	0	39	0
Mukerji	16	1	81	5
Ali	15	1	65	4
Bose	6	0	33	1

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE.

1st Innings.			2nd Innings.		
S. Mohomed, b Watcha	...	0	b Tata	...	0
C. Ali, c Kapadia, b Driver	...	22	b Tata	...	10
G. Gupta, b Driver	...	7	b Antia	...	1
J Roy, b Watcha	...	5	c Mulla, b Watcha	...	32
K. Bose, b Watcha	...	5	b Tata	...	22
F. Oaton, b Driver	...	19	c Gimi, b Watcha	...	2
L. Guha, c Driver, b Watcha	...	9	lbw Watcha	...	2
P. Bose, b Driver	...	5	b Watcha	...	1
J. Mukerji, b Driver	...	0	c Mulla, b Watcha	...	10
Roy Chowdry, c Kapadia, b Watcha	...	9	b Tata	...	2
N. Guha, not out	...	0	not out	...	0
Extras	...	0	Extras	...	8
Total		81	Total		90

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W
Watcha	14	1	40	5	9	0	40	5
Driver	13	1	41	5	3	1	7	0
Antia	...	...	...	...	4	0	18	1
Tata	...	...	...	...	10	3	17	4

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Calcutta was in her most radiant mood and the people were quite jubilant over the approaching visit of the King, for which preparations were going on in every part of the city. Every where the eyes met the tiny Chinamen moving about with hammer and saw to raise triumphant arches and busy shopmen worrying about decorations and bustling with flags and festoons. The events were many and in sufficient variety to suit all tastes. Owing to the numerous public functions that congested the programme of the the gay city, the Calcutta C. Club were able to spare only a day for a match with us. The match came off on the day of the Indian Derby (the Viceroy Cup), and despite the great interest that centred round the event, the side that opposed us was a representative one and can reasonably be compared with some of the Bombay Presidency elevens during the lean years. The match was well attended from the very start. The C.C.C. ground was situated in the Eden Gardens ; the pitch though soft was excellent and played true and easy. Surely one cannot help feeling for the wretched conditions in which cricket is played in Bombay, despite its great reputation as the 'Cradle of Indian Cricket,' when he sees the numerous and extensive sporting fields of Calcutta, green and level, immune from the annoyance of polo players and free from the harrowing cries of "Look out black coat." If Bombay can hold her own in the game, still it has reason to envy Calcutta for the numerous beautiful fields at its disposal.

Bazar, Darjeeling

In this match we lacked the services of a good wicket keeper. Mulla had taken his departure the night before the match, while Jam. Antia was incapaciated from taking active interest owing to his bad knee. Their players provided a real test for our bowling and as the ground gave very little aid to them, scoring

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ruled high. Our bowling was certainly not seen at its best, but in fielding our work was too often faulty. White was the best man on their side though not the top scorer. He profited by two chances and played a hard game, showing occasionally want of judgment in dealing with well pitched balls. Shallow was a steady bat and confined his aggressive tactics to strokes behind the wickets. Bocquet's innings was indeed a treat to watch. He was missed twice, once when he had scored only 20; but he deserved fortune's favours. He stayed in practically throughout their innings and such a lusty punishment did he inflict on the bowlers that before lunch time, he had placed his side fairly out of the dangers of a defeat. He played quite an impressive innings and missed the triple figures by only 7 runs.

At 203-8-1, the Calcutta C. Club cried content and left us with 2 hours and 15 minutes to score 203 runs. Chothia began the formidable task and within a few overs signalled 40 on the board. This supple wristed player has played many long and bright innings but this though short, was perhaps the most brilliant he has ever played. He scored 39 by quite artistic cricket, some of his square cutting being simply fascinating. He by his vigorous cutting powers showed that scoring fast is not a matter of inches and muscles, and his own success on this occasion, was a triumph of natural ability over physical disadvantage. His brilliant performance was followed by the productive partnership of Kapadia and Pulwanker. Kapadia bore out the good opinion framed of his cricket and rose to the need of the occasion. Pulwanker flashed out like a meteor and played an excellent innings for 40. He troubled the Calcutta C. Club all round the field and there was scarcely any stroke which he did not make.

The fast rate of scoring was uniformly kept up throughout, but the most thrilling part of the exciting match came when the ninth wicket fell at 196. We required only 7 runs and the match could be won, lost or drawn. Tata came in pea green, for it was a moment which would have tried the most placid

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nerves. Tata stood pluckily and his five on this occasion was worth many fifties. But before the last over was finished, we had the pleasant satisfaction of seeing a bye go for 4, which gave the required runs. The excitement was great since Chothia began gloriously and it was quite a relief when Tata brought the match to a successful ending.

The result was very gratifying, but much of the gratification disappeared as it was announced that there was some discrepancy in our total. For though our total score according to the bowlers' analysis and total score sheet amounted to 205, on taking the totals of the individual scores, the figures fell short by 5 runs. Evidently our scorer, unaided in his task by the opposite side, had in the moment of excitement, omitted to credit the deficit against the batsmen's names. As the contending parties were not unanimous as to the right method of taking the total, it was agreed, to keep the result of the match indecisive, pending the receipt of a reply to a reference to be made to the Secretary M. C. C. The following is the reply from the Secretary M. C. C., which was communicated to the Secretary, C. C. C., who duly acknowledged their defeat by 2 runs.

Lords' Cricket Ground,
London, N. W.
29th January 1912.

To,
J. D. ANTIA, ESQ.
DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of 13th instant the question in dispute is one of fact and if this can be established, as appears probable, it will decide the result of the match and the score sheets should altered accordingly.

The score sheet is only a means of recording the facts.

Yours faithfully,
F. E. LACEY.
Secretary M. C. C.

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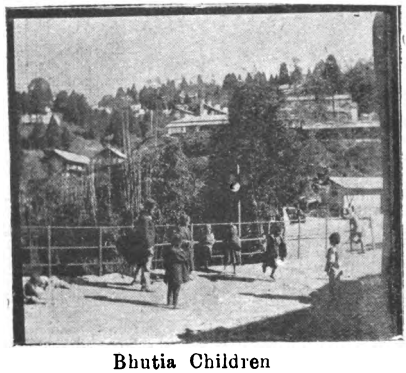
CALCUTTA CRICKET CLUB. 1st Innings.		ELPH. COLLEGE. 1st Innings.	
B. White, c Antia, b Watcha	31	S. Chothia, c Turnbull, b Yeoman	39
D. Shallow, c Chothia, b Daver	38	A. Wadia, b Yeoman	2
A. Bocquet, b Driver	93	P. Daver, b Yeoman	8
J. Guise, c Chothia, b Watcha	2	H. Gimi, run out	3
E. Studd, c Kapadia, b Watcha	1	G. Pulwanker, b Lee	47
H. Yeoman, c Pulwanker, b Daver.	12	M. Watcha, c White, b Lee	29
G. Turnbull, lbw Driver	0	D. Kapadia, b Bocquet	38
C. Pope, b Daver	1	A. Driver, b Pope	8
S. Lee, not out	3	J. Antia, b Bocquet	12
J. Barton, not out	3	E. Allbless, c Taylor, b Bocquet	0
J. Taylor, did not bat	0	R. Tata, not out	5
Extras	19	Extras	14
Total (8 wkts.)	203	Total	205

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O	M.	R.	W.
Watcha ...	18	2	76	3	White ...	9	1	43	0
Tata ...	8	1	18	0	Lee ...	14	2	55	2
Antia ...	4	0	17	0	Yeoman ...	11	1	43	3
Driver ...	10	1	20	2	Bocquet ...	9	2	26	3
Pulwanker...	3	0	15	0	Pope ...	4	0	24	1
Daver ..	11	0	38	3					

Our last match with the Bengal Gymkhana, had to be abandoned as the day fixed for the game happened to coincide with the day of the arrival of Their Imperial Majesties to Calcutta.



Bhutia Children

Unmindful of the weather abnormalities prevailing during that season at Darjeeling, we undertook the trip to the charming hill station which has such a fascination for admirers of the beauties of nature. This tour though not full of good fixtures was the most enjoyable we have yet taken, and the pleasantest part of it commenced with the journey-de-luxe, when

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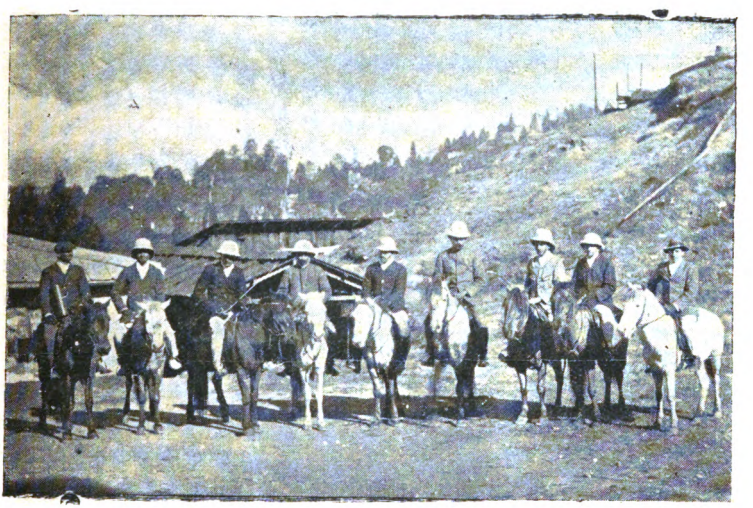
we left Sealdah on the evening of the 28th. The Darjeeling Mail of the Eastern Bengal State Ry. is perhaps the fastest in which we have travelled ; its speed raging as high as 60 miles an hour. The run was pleasant and exhilarating. At night we arrived at Damukdea Ghat and crossed the Ganges for the third time by the S. S. 'Sara'. The Parsees of the moffusil are known for their hospitality, and Mr. D. Sorabjee, the refreshment room contractor, was no exception to the rule. He entertained the team to a very sumptuous banquet on board the steamer. The voyage was short, but exceedingly delightful. It was a clear



Elphs. Squadron at Tiger Hill

moon-lit night in which our tiny steamer seemed to glide like a phantom, so easy and smooth was its motion over the silvery surface of the water, which reflected the borrowed brilliancy of the moon. At Sara Ghat we again took train and in the morning arrived at Seliguri at the foot of the stately Hymalayas.

The conveyance up the hill is by the toy railway, the Darjeeling Hymalayan Ry. There is no tunnel on the way, but the line describes several loops, some of which are regarded as

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masterpieces of engineering. The Great Chimbatty Loop is particularly striking and describes a regular circle. During the early stage of the journey, the scenery was piny, lightened by an occasional glimpse of the snows. But as the train approached Darjeeling, an array of snow clad cliffs glittering in the golden rays of the sun, burst upon our eager eyes. The scenery at Darjeeling owes its richness to the snow, a characteristic which makes the place particularly attractive and gives it a pull over Ooty and other hill stations and the appelative of 'the beauty spot of India'.

At Darjeeling we were received as the guests of Mr. J. F. Madon and passed a pleasant holiday week at his beautiful Piroj Villa, situated on the Mall. The population is much reduced during this time of the year and but for the Bhutias, the majority of the floating population prefer to go down to the plains. The Bhutias are very interesting people, smart, polite and good natured, though perfectly spirited and least inclined to brook ill-treatment. They are hardworking and during their leisure moments are seen rotating their-prayer wheels and muttering their cant religious pharse "Om Manè Pamè Om."

In the absence of a cricket matches, riding became our staple pastime and the majority of the team began their first lessons during the stay. The horses were country-bred, sagacious and sure footed ; but amongst them all, the horse of Tata was the best and seemed to possess more virtues than any other horse since the days of Bucephalus. The animal was as cool and collected as his rider and slowly and steadily, he used to bring his master, bleeding and blistering home. Accidents were few, but at times we had the unpleasant experience of sliding down the animal's neck.

Much has been said and written about the delightful sight of 'Sunrise on Mt. Everest' and much indeed will still be written about its glory and grandeur. The charming view, one of the best in the world can be obtained from the Senechal (Tiger Hill)

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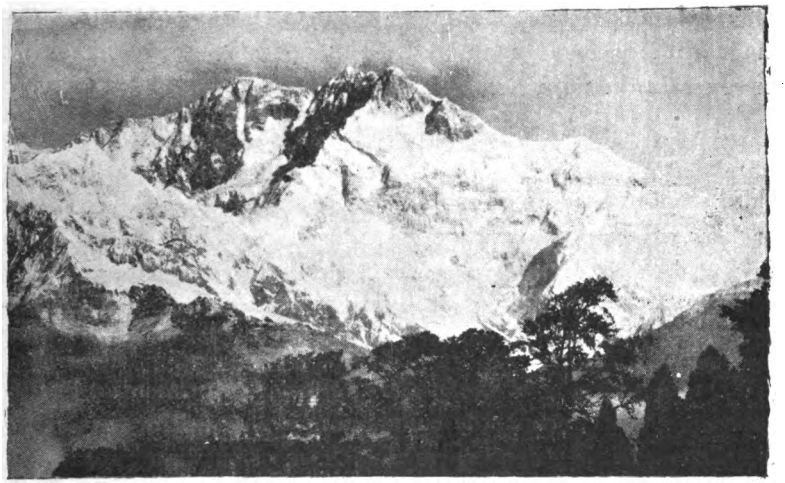

Kinchinjunga

about six miles from Darjeeting, provided the morning is not misty and foggy, which is more often the case than otherwise. At four in the morning we were awakened amidst freezing cold and an anxious scrutiny of the sky having satisfied our guide as to the clearness of the morning, we rode our horses from Darjeeling, fast enveloped in sleep. At little before sun rise we reached our destination. We ascended the neighbouring kopje and awaited the sun to dart its level rays on the glorious view. The shades of night were dispersing and in varied shades of pearly grey, the cold clear light of the dawn was grandually creeping over the features of the landscape. The giant snow capped hills of Kinchinjunga stood white and pure against the cloudless sky, with just a fine flash of pink on their stately summits. Beyond this magnificent scene we could see tiers upon tiers of snow peaks and in the midst them there lay the small apex of the Everest, enrobed in its snowy beauty. The whole scene was sublime. Our photographers were busy with their Kodaks and thoroughly bombarded the whole scene; but the six inch stereo camera of Karaka was a source of never ending puzzle to the Bhutias. They looked upon him as a demigod and

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wondered and wondered how such a small thing could carry the image of those huge mountains. The writer is thankful to him for several prints appearing in this book.

After enjoying a hearty breakfast, we turned our steps, as we carried the impression of the God-favoured spot. The whole scene was so impressive that it would indeed be a sin to forget it. During our stay, the representatives of the Daily News and the Daily Chronicle paid a visit to Darjeeling and in their reports described it as "the beauty spot of India and in some respects, perhaps of the world."

On the morning of the 5th, we returned to Calcutta, in time to see the great Pageant, the culminating event in the visit of the King. The whole of Calcutta presented the most bustling appearance, and quite a stream of men, motors, carriages, and buggies pursued its mad career to the *maidan* where the event was to happen. By afternoon, the *maidan* was surrounded by a thick wall of humanity. The Pageant was emminently striking and illustrated a series of scenes from Indian History. The procession, in two characters, represented the celebration of the Nawroz on the state entry of Jamsheed in his capital of Persepolis and the festival of Desara connected with the victory of Rama over Ravana, the King of Devils. The whole scene was a barbaric display of variegated colours and dazzling splendour. Horses covered with scarlet and green trappings, regal elephants whose *kasbi* cloth swept the ground, carrying howdahs panelled with velvet of various colours, preceded and followed by *choblars*, pikemen, spearmen, in their glittering array of dressess, gave a sight which only an Indian procession could present. But the crowning glory of the rich scene was lent, when Their Majesties throwing off the state conventionality, drove amidst the crowd unattended by *sowers* and train, so as to come in close contact with that section of the people, who were farthest away from the royal pavilion. The crowd spontaneously responded. There was a loud out burst of cheers and for several minutes there was nothing but the shrill and mad cry of *Raja ke Je*. It was indeed an unique

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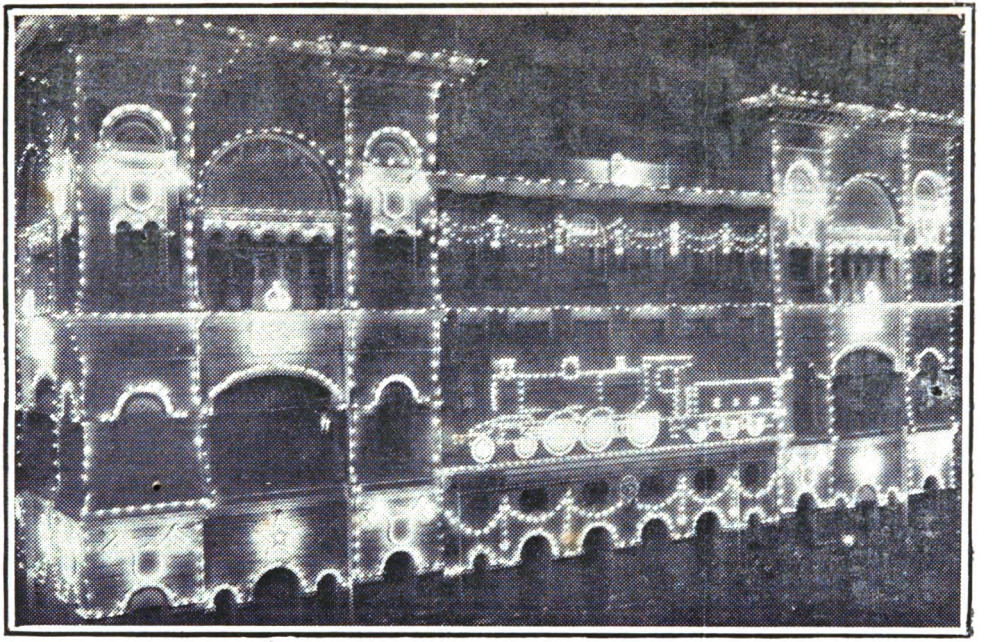

E. I. Ry. House

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event. There was the King amidst his people and face to face with his loyal Indian subjects. There was such an unparrelled manifestation of loyalty, affection and gratitute towards their beloved sovereign, that it would have convinced the most pessimistic politician, that whatever views the Indians held regarding the political situation, loyalty and allegiance to their devoted King was uppermost in their hearts.

The team enjoyed an undisturbed view from the seats so kindly provided by the Parsees of Calcutta. After the close of the big *tomasha*, we are busy with our departure. Shortly after dusk, the city was in a blaze of illuminations. Our last moments at the city were very pleasant, as we drove through the crowded streets, lined on each side by huge buildings, gorgeously and lavishly illuminated. The E. I. Ry, House, was very artistically decorated. An excellent design of the engine formed the central figure of the decorations and the visible rotations of its wheels, speckled with tiny little lights claimed the attention of all the observers. Owing to the great rush of passengers, it was difficult to find suitable accomodation by the Mail. But the authorities of the E. I. Ry. very kindly booked us by a special train as far as Mogul Serai and from there connected our reserved carriage with the Bombay Mail.

On the evening of the 5th we left Calcutta. Our pleasant and enjoyable days at Calcutta and Darjeeling will be closely associated with the excellent hospitality of Mr. J. F. Madon, the great Parsee *sakhi* of Calcutta. It was indeed very kind of this gentleman to have entertained our team for such a long period and at a time when there was a great influx of visitors at Calcutta. Both his theatre and cinema shows were open to our team every evening and night and nothing was left undone to make every moment of our stay as pleasant as possible. Our thanks are also due to Mr. M. Gazder, who looked after the boarding arrangements of the team, while at Calcutta.

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On the morning of the 7th we arrived at Bombay and finished the memorable tour, the greatest, the most exciting and the most enjoyable we ever had. Of all its numerous and exciting events we shall not forget three things. The 'Sunrise on Mt. Everest'; the Calcutta Pageant and the hospitality of Mr. Madon.

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Murrie

CHAPTER XI.

The Northern Punjab Tour.

1912.

Period 20 days. Miles 3124.

TEAM.

Mr.	M. B. Watcha. (Capt.)	Mr.	N. C. Kapadia.
Dr.	H. D. Gimi.	,,	H. D. Karaka.
,,	A. R. Driver.	,,	M. F. Mulla.
Mr.	P. H. Daver.	,,	B. K. Allbless.
,,	B. F. Mehta.	,,	R. E. Dadachanji.
,,	Jeh. D. Antia.	,,	G. B. Pulwanker.
,,	D. K. Kapadia.	,,	Jam. D. Antia. (Hony. Sec. & Treasr.)
,,	R. J. Tata.		

This year is notable for one of the longest and most successful tours in the history of the College. The programme was more ambitious than usual and took us as far as Peshawar and even

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included a hasty trip up the Khyber Pass, as far as Ali Masjid. From the point of view of cricket it was eminently successful, though we scarcely expected the measure of success we actually achieved. Our team was not at full strength and lacked the services of two of our great bats, Mulla and Chothia. We cannot hope to have uniformly strong years. Nearly all the old blood has evaporated and we have to rely more and more on the freshers, whose supply unfortunately is getting poorer year after year. During the first four tours, the present students formed the props and pillars of the team ; but unfortunately those palmy days are gone. Our College cricket depends on the products received from the schools. We cannot manufacture new cricketers ; the most we can do is to train and cultivate raw materials. But when recruits even cease to come, our position is one of despair. The supply of cricketers from schools during the late years has reached the famine point and even the New High School, the great factory of school cricketers has ceased the sporting help which she has lent us in the past. The number of old tourists is dwindling, and though the pace has not been fast, still there is an average loss of two per year. But fortunately some new colts are knocking at the door of the tour and very nicely filling up the vacant places. On this occasion we had the valuable addition of G. Pulwanker, whose able support in batting bore us successfully through many hard fought contests.

On the night of the 14th December, we left Colaba by the Northern Express with bags and baggages and all the paraphernalia of a long tour, to manage which required no small amount of time, temper and money. The journey was long and uneventful and broken by a few hours' halt at Sharanpur. On the afternoon of the 16th, we reached Rajpura and journeyed up to Patiala by state coaches. We had retained so many pleasant recollections of our last visit that we longed to reach Patiala and after a dusty drive of 16 miles, we entered the portico of the

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Guest House, where we were received as the guests of H. H. the Maharaja.

On the 17th, we played the first match of the tour. The Patiala State had put forth a formidable eleven. It had besides the sporting Maharaja, Major Mistry, the acknowledged champion of India, Tarrant, one of the best all round men in England and Mignon, the reputed fast bowler of Middlesex. The ground was plumb and true and gave no assistance to the bowler and its condition remained so perfect that it was not possible to have any bowling advantage even on the last day. We opened our innings but fell down like nine pins before the rapid onslaught of Mignon. Next to Mignon's splendid bowling, tho chief feature of our innings was the umpiring of B. Mehta, who gave 10 balls in an over and thus established the world's record for arithmetical umpiring.

The home team despite its strong batting combination did not fare well at the start. Mistry was out to a splendid catch by Palwanker in the country while Tarrant was smartly held by the same fielder at short leg in trying to hook a short pitched ball of Tata. The seventh wicket fell at 126. H. H. The Maharaja played a striking innings but was unfortunately out to a decision, which by theory turned out to be incorrect. He was declared L. B. W. to Daver, a left hand round the wicket bowler.

After the departure of His Higness, Mignon and Goculchand raised the score from 126 to 250. Mignon though not a great bat, played a hitting game and as our fielding was very slack, he found little difficulty in compiling 70. He was missed thrice and was ultimately caught, while mistiming a simple half volley.

In the evening we went with His Highness and his party to the skating rink. The rink was full and crowded with visitors, while the band of His Highness played several delightful tunes to drown the wabbling sound of the skaters. Most of the skaters

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Elph. College vs. The Maharaja XI

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were very proficient and flitted gracefully and waltzed round a few beginners, who were seen measuring the ground at every alternate yard. The party was later on divided and the wild game of hockey began. The match was really very interesting and exciting and the way in which the skaters charged the goal struck awe in the hearts of the uninitiated ones. Amongst all of them, His Highness was very conspicuous and seemed to be a past master in the game and very skillfully cleared the ball through the formidable opposition.

Play was resumed the next day and at 300-9-19, closure was applied. Goculchand stayed in for three hours and scored 51 (N. O.) ; though his early performance did not suggest that he would have a long career at the crease, for he was very shaky at the start. We had four hours more for play. Driver stayed in for two hours and scored 45 ; but the figures are not eloquent of his excellent performance. His innings was not sensational but very useful, for he completely knocked Tarrant and Mignon out of their breath. When he got out, Tarrant very fitly remarked " Half the match is won. " Driver is an ideal member for the tour team. A good defensive bat, an excellent hard working bowler and a very safe field. He is of a modest and quiet disposition but that does not tell against his popularity, for he is as great a favourite with the team as any other member. The partnership of Pulwanker and Gimi was the most brilliant if not the most productive on tours. They carried the score from 86 to 215 and played exhilarating cricket. Gimi was near his century but was unfortunate in being run out through a faulty call from his partner. It is a pity that he should have scored 97, 75, 71, 74 and not once reached his 100. Pulwanker played the innings of his life and scored 101 (N. O.) with cricket of the highest class. It was not the sum of his runs that was so much appreciated as the style in which they were obtained, for he employed a variety of strokes and his batting was perfect and true. He was no doubt lucky in his innings. He was held behind the sticks to a no ball when at 0 and was excusably missed on the long at 30.

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Beyond this, his innings was immune from a flaw. At call of time we compiled the brilliant total of 242-3-74 and that too against the terrific trio of Mignon, Mistry and Tarrant. The match was drawn.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. Driver, b Mignon	26	b Mignon	45
P. Daver, c Bootaram, b Mignon ...	2	b Tarrant	4
H. Gimi, b Mignon	0	run not	74
G. Pulwanker, c Goculchand, b Mistry	7	not out	101
D. Kapadia, b Mignon	4	not out	8
R. Dadachanji, b Mignon	0		
R. Tata, b Mignon	0		
M. Watcha, b Mignon	10		
Jam. Antia, c Goculchand, b Tarrant	20	did not bat	
B. Allbless, b Mignon	4		
N. Kapadia, not out	4		
Extras	8	Extras	10
Total...	85	Total (3 wkts.)	242

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O,	M.	R.	W.
Mignon	12	2	26	8	23	5	59	1
Mistry	7	1	30	1	6	1	13	0
Tarrant	4	1	21	1	27	5	77	1
Gani	...	...	...	...	6	0	14	0
Tarachand	...	...	...	...	7	1	39	0
Budesiram	...	...	...	...	3	0	11	0
Gurbukhsing	...	...	...	...	5	1	19	0

H. H. THE MAHARAJA OF PATIALA'S XI.

1st Innings.		Bowling Analysis.				
F. Tarrant, c Pulwanker, b Tata ...	28		O.	M.	R.	W.
K. Mistry, c Pulwanker, b Watcha...	9	Watcha	23	2	83	4
Tarachand, b Watcha	10	Driver	16	4	50	0
Bootaram, c Jam. Antia, b Watcha	17	Tata	15	1	44	1
H.H. The Maharaja, lbw Daver ...	31	Daver	14	2	40	2
A Gani, b Pulwanker	8	Pulwanker	12	1	36	2
Budesiram, b Daver	8	Kapadia	2	0	7	0
E. Mignon, c Dadachanji, b Watcha,	70	Dadachanji	2	0	3	0
Goculchand, not out	51					
Gurbukhsing, c Driver, b Pulwanker	19					
Gopalchand, not out	12					
Extras	37					
Total (9 wkts,)	300					

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On the night of the 18th, after a sumptuous banquet, we left Patiala and performed the return journey to Rajpura by state coaches. We had to catch the Calcutta Punjab Mail the next morning and had to pass a whole night at the station. The retiring room had a limited capacity and no proper furniture. Some slept on the floor, others on the benches on the platform, while a third party laid their wearied limbs in the exposed carriages in the

P. Daver

station yard. No body had a comfortable bed and in the night we had the bitter experience of freezing cold and biting frost. All vowed that it was a very miserable night. Next day we travelled through a fertile expanse of land intersected by numerous canals and arrived at Rawalpindi on the evening of the 19th.

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At Pindi we were the guests of Mr. F. J. Boga whose brother Mr. J. J. Boga had been chiefly instrumental in making all the requisite arrangements in connection with our visits to Pindi, Murree and Peshawar. On the 20th we played the Rawalpindi Club, which is one of the best European combinations in the North. The R. C. had the first knock, and their innings realised 62 runs. Watcha was well served by the pitch which was on the soft side. The military players as a rule do not relish slow bowling for they seldom get a chance of practising with it. Kapadia played a short but brilliant innings and scored 35, which included a sixer. Certainly he is the best Elph. bat at present and if an Indian team were to be selected to-day, he would be in it on sheer merit. On his own ground at the Elph. C. Club, his scoring is abnormally high and his side is more or less considered invincible when he is playing for it. During that season he emerged with an analysis of 56·84 and aggregated 1080 runs, which included 3 centuries. We would only wish that Dame Fortune would spare her favours for him while he is playing on tour and in the Quadrangular Contests, rather than lavishly shower them when he is playing for the Elph. C. Club.

With 43 in arrears the R. C. started their second innings, and the first wicket fell at 86. Lancaster and Thomas were the best bats of their side. The ground had considerably improved and both the players played a vigorous game. They however received little succour from their comrades and the rest were out for 140. Daver, the old veteran, bowled well and was responsible for 5 good wickets. Daver is at present the oldest Elph. cricketer taking active interest in the game. He represented the College when most of the tourists were playing with dolls and some had not even seen the light of the universe. He is not past the field form and is yet a formidable bowler if carefully nursed by a good captain and long spells of bowling avoided for him. We scored the necessary runs with the loss of 5 wickets; Pulwanker again coming to our rescue with his timely score of 37 (N. O.).

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RAWALPINDI CLUB.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. Manning, c & b Watcha	3	b Tata	11
O. Watters, c & b Watcha	1	lbw Daver	5
B. Rochford. lbw Watcha	5	b Daver	6
A. Bird, b Antia	5	c Driver, b Daver	0
S. Thompson, c Gimi, b Watcha ...	11	c Driver, b Daver	43
C. Larmour, c Kapadia, b Watcha ...	5	not out	0
E. Lancaster, b Watcha	0	b Tata	40
R. Betham, c Allbless, b Watcha ...	1	c & b Tata	0
R. Birdgeman, not out	14	c Driver, b Tata	9
G. Earle, b Driver	16	l b w Daver	12
J. Sloggett, did not bat	0	c & b Driver...	6
Extras	1	Extras	8
Total...	62	Total ..	140

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha ...	10	1	33	7	5	0	25	0
Antia ...	9	2	28	1	3	0	28	0
Driver ..	1	1	0	1	6	2	13	1
Tata ..	...	...	..	...	9	0	24	4
Daver ...	..	...	...	...	10	1	42	5

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. Driver, b Earle	0	c and b Lancaster	30
H. Gimi, c Watters, b Betham ...	15	b Earle	6
R. Dadachanji, c Thompson, b Betham.	19	c & b Betham	15
G. Pulwanker, run out	14	not out	37
D. Kapadia, c & b Earle	35	c Sloggett, b Earle	0
M. Watcha, b Betham	2	b Earle	0
Jeh. Antia, run out	10	not out	8
P. Daver, b Earle	1		
R. Tata, b Earle	0	did not bat	
N. Kapadia, not out	3		
B. Allbless, c Watters, b Lancaster ...	1		
Extras	5	Extras	3
Total	105	Total (5 wkts.)	99

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Earle	19	8	30	4	11	0	44	3
Betham	16	4	59	3	6	0	34	1
Lancaster	3	1	3	1	2	0	8	1
Bridgeman	...	...	...	...	4	0	10	0

While the match was in progress the contingent of the team's reserves paid a visit to Murree, the beautiful hill station of the Hymalayas. Leaving Pindi in the freezing morning, the enterprising party set out on its expedition to fight its way in the snows. All the houses and hotels are closed during the winter months but the party managed to find a temporary shelter in

Snow Hills, Muree

the Chambers Hotel. The temperature in the noon of the arrival was 40° and the reading of the thermometer simply frightened one of the partly who could not imagine what the cold would be at twelve in the night. The weather though intensely cold was pleasant and enjoyable outside. The scene round the hills was simply delightful. The hills were enveloped in a soft and fleecy

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mantle, the roofs of the houses without inmates were smothered and grotesquely thatched with snows and decorated on its borders with a fringe of drooping icicles in all fantastic shapes and sizes. The lake not far from the Mall, was entirely frozen and looked like a thick sheet of glass. The moon-lit night was even more delightful and anything more magnificent than the snow hills reflecting the borrowed brilliancy of the moon would be hard to imagine.

On the evening of the 22nd, Mr. N. J. Boga was 'at home' to the team. Messrs. Stevenson and Gray, the famous billiard champions were also invited, and they entertained the guests with an exhibition of their fancy strokes. After a hearty dinner followed by the thundering sounds of 'They are all jolly good fellows' which very nearly shook the house with their vibrations, we exchanged good-bye with our host and hostess, and set out on our journey to Peshawar. We had enjoyed a good victory and a pleasant sojourn, and our thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Boga for their endeavours in providing for our comforts. Surely no member will forget the three charming days we spent under their hospitable roof.

On the morning of the 22nd we arrived at Peshawar, with an imagination fed up with various reports of dangers, with which we were regaled before leaving Bombay. At the station we were received by 'Peel' as we endearingly termed the boyish gentleman, Mr. P. Saklatwala, who had been deputed by our host Mr. S. E. Madon to conduct us to his abode. Here the majority of our team reverted to their old style of Parsee dress, lest they should be taken for Englishmen by the Afridis and shot. Surely there were days when it was risky for a person in English costume to stir about after dusk beyond the cantonment limits ; but thanks to the able administration of Sir Ross Keppel, those tumultuous days are fast disappearing. The bazar presented a very interesting and animated appearance full of din and noise with Afridi sellers in

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H. Karaka. R. Tata. B. Allbless. N. Kapadia. Jeh. Antia.

The Tour Team in Aligarh Uniform

M. Mulla. H. Gimi B. Mehta. M. Watcha (Capt.) Jam. Antia. P. Daver.
D. Kapadia. R. Dadachanji. A. Driver. G. Pulwanker.

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their quaint and curly trousers and the execitable *buggiwalas* with their discordant cries of '*Bachke! Bachke!*' Our members no doubt looked queer with their Parsee head-dress on English costume and were wistfully gazed at with much novelty and interest. When our nationality was announced nearly the whole of the bazar was out to have a look at us, for the Afridis love the Parsees and claim their relationship with them through Nawshirwan-e-Adal. Some of the shops in the bazar are worth a visit, especially those exhibiting the wax works, for which the city is famous. Outside the walls of the city is Shajiki Dhari, the place where the relics of Buddah were excavated.

In the afternoon of the 23rd we played a half day match with the Peshawari team, which was of a rag description. Our original fixture with the Peshawar C. Club had been cancelled and to please a few Peshawaries, this match was arranged, which through want of time ended in a draw.

Tuesday the 24th was the Khyber day. The pass is open to traffic for only two days in a week, and we had some difficulty in obtaining the passport, which is worth preserving as a memento of our visit to one of the greatest passes of the world.

Permit to visit the Khyber Pass.

The Elphinstone College team (15 persons in all) has permission to visit the Khyber Pass on Tuesday the 24th December 1912, proceeding as far as Ali Masjid and returning the same day.

(Sd.)

Political Agent, Khyber.

(1) This permit is only available for the day of issue.

(2) This permit should be shown at the Khyber Tolls Office at Jamrud and visitors are requested to write their names in a book kept there.

(3) Visitors will not be allowed to pass Jamrud on the outward journey later than 11-30 A.M.

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(4) Visitors should leave Ali Masjid for the return journey not later than 2-30 p.m.

(5) Visitors are not allowed to enter blockhouses and defence works.

(6) Drawing, photography and the taking of notes in the Khyber are strictly prohibited.

'At eight in the morning exactly,' was the injunction of our host and precisely at that hour all the members were in their seats in the *buggies*. An hour's hard drive brought us to Jamrud. In a quarter of an hour more we began to ascend the Hymalayas. We had entered the memorable pass. The road gradually ascends and clings bravely to one side of the hills and then to the other, on whose summit the Afridi sepoys vigilantly guard the pass. The pass is a natural one and forms a conduit through which the various invasions of India have flowed in the past. Crowning the summit of the hills adjoining the pass are the frowning fortresses, wherein are the unsleeping and vigilant guards of the British, ready to apply the spark to their guns to annihilate the enemy, who may dare to attempt to pass through. Higher and higher the pass meanders till we reach the hostile and formidable fort of Ali Masjid, the place so famous in the Indian History for the scene of gallantry of the brave British troops under General Pollock, who drove the Afghans from the summit of these mountains. Our horses had done good work and after feasting ourselves with the dust, we arrived at Ali Masjid, where the Afridi sentinel blocked the way with his bayonet indicating 'Thus far and no more'. The wind here was awfully chilly and severe and we were obliged to seek shelter from it in a cave where we partook of our lunch.

After a few minutes' rest, we again traversed the pass, which on account of its gloomy history appealed more and more to our imagination. Gliding down it looked like a serpent, twisting to avoid the various juttings, now edging a precipitous cliff, now hiding to avoid the lynx eyes of the sentinels, now appearing again by the mountain on the other side from where we could see the Afghan caravans carrying the motor petrol for H. M. the Amir. Our whole experience was novel and impressive though some of us

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were disappointed as their imagination had led them to believe a pass between two mountains so narrow and constricted that two carriages could hardly cross each other.

At our last dinner, which happened to be on the Xmas day, our captain proposed the toast of Mr. S. E. Madon, which was enthusiastically drunk and thanked him on behalf of the team for his kindness and hospitality in making our visit to Peshawar one of pleasant memory. We were the guests of Mr. Madon for three

Peshawar

days, and Parsee generous hospitality always means a very enjoyable sojourn.

On night of the 25th we left Peshawar with our noses pointed to the South. On our way, we spent a busy day at Delhi and arrived on the morning of the 28th at Aligarh, the scene of the last and most glorious strife on tour. We were very comfortably put up at the Aligarh College and had a very pleasant experience of Mohomedan hospitality. The arena of the College is not

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confined to a small compound, surrounding a solitary structure as we have in Bombay, but is a small city in itself, having a mosque, a hospital, a library, a dramatic hall and a large number of various other premises. An active movement has been set on foot to acquire additional ground for the College, which finds its present compass too narrow for its growing needs. The Mohomedans are very keen over making this College the model institution of India, and if the labour and energy of its promoters and supporters are fitly rewarded, their aspirations will be fulfilled. In any case it is an institution for the possession and management of which the Mohomedans may well be proud.

On the 29th, we opened our match against our greatest rivals, the Aligarh College, who compete with us in the cricket supremacy amongst the Indian Colleges. In 1903 we had an exciting victory over them by 16 runs and so the return match was looked forward to by both the parties as another test for deciding the cricket supremacy. Their side was at full strength and included Ali Husein, once the champion bowler of India, Salamudin and Syed Hasan of all India and Syeed, who represented the Mohomedans in Bombay. The ground was on the soft side and got dented very soon. In the first innings we would have been in a sorry plight, had it not been for the giant support of Pulwanker, who scored the major portion of the total and fell at the last wicket in trying to force the game. He batted with much restrain though he made seven 4's and one 6. In the attack Jeh. Antia came off well with his beautiful swerves and so long as the gloss remained on the ball, he was unplayable and swept off the first three wickets for 9 runs. The partnership of Salam and Ali Husain was very remuner ative but the succeeding bats did very little. Salam played in good style and used much discrimination in his shots. Ali Husain had a poky defence and failed to bring about some offensive strokes. Our second innings was not very satisfactory; Pulwanker was again the hero with a score of 47 out of 97. Ali Husain was deadly and maintained a perfect length throughout. We had the opportunity of judging the excellence of the bowling of Salamudin and Ali Husain, but we would certainly give the

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Elph. College vs. M. A. O. College, Aligarh

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palm to the latter. He has two of the formidable weapons of a good bowler; breaks from both sides, which he varies most tactfully, and a perfect length. He is a modest cricketer of rare abilities and was highly spoken of by Hearne and Headlam. Salam was more steady than unplayable and his 'pace at any price' policy did not succeed on a pitch, which did not respond to the pace at which he was sending the ball.

Our prospects for a win were not cheery when we went to field with 70 to our credit. Driver bowled remarkably well and soon got the Aligarh in a hopeless tangle. Their innings was a nice procession and at 23-6-0 we got the grip over the game. The call of prayer was heard in the *Masjid* close to the field. Play ceased for a few minutes. The Mohomedan players and spectators laid themselves on the ground, while the Elphs. doffed their hats in honour of the sacred call.

Driver's bowling was irresistable and at 29 the eighth wicket fell. We were not yet out of the wood, for Zainulabad, who had played so well against us at Agra and Delhi in 1908, was making frantic efforts to swell the score, to which he had already contributed 22. But we had a big slice of luck on that day. 'Ah!' cried Jeh. Antia as he gave an easy full pitch on the leg. Zainul in his eagerness to convert it into a sixer, mistimed it, got the ball on the wrong side of the bat and brought it to the wickets. 'Ho!' was our involuntary cry, while Gimi, laying aside his doctorial dignity, jumped three feet from the ground as the stumps were found prostrate on the pitch. At 48 Daver administered the *coupe de grace* by smartly holding the last man. We won by 24 runs.

We broke the spell of their victories and gave the Aligarh College their first defeat on their ground. To us the match was like Trafalgar, as it enabled us to retain our cricket supremacy over the Indian Colleges. Driver was our Nelson. He took 8 for 20 runs and no words of praise could be too great for his excellent bowling feat, which converted what seemed a sure

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defeat into a glorious victory. Apart from good cricket, matches are won by good generalship and the abilities of a good captain are seen at best when the side is playing with its back to the wall. The team owes much of its success on tour, during the later years, to the excellent judgment and discretion, with which Watcha has led his side on field. He has been lenient when

M. Watcha

necessary, and his efficiency and abilities have been proved by the series of successes achieved by the team. A side cannot fare consistently well under a bad one. It was under his able and sympathetic leadership that some of the most glorious contests against Patiala, Kashmir, Jamnagar, Calcutta C. Club and Aligarh College, have been played and won. An excellent slow bowler, unapproachable on fast wickets, an ordinary bat, scoring well in

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need, and an able captain with whom players are willing to co-operate, he has proved as great and useful as Gimi, whose batting prowess adorn every chapter of this book. One great beauty of his captaincy is his desire to be open to correction, and though inculcating on all occasions his prior claims to dictate on field, he has never arrogated to domineer, as some captains are in the habit of doing, and has readily appreciated and followed advice and suggestions tendered from any quarter.

ELPH. COLLEGE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. Driver, b Salamudin	8	b Ali Husein	8
P. Daver, b Ali Husein	2	b Khan Mohomed ...	1
H. Gimi, b Ali Husein	2	c Abidi, b Khan Mohomed	2
R. Dadachanji, b Salamudin	0	b Khan Mohomed ...	1
D. Kapadia, b Salamudin	10	st Syed. b Ali Husein ...	6
G. Pulwanker, c Khan Md., b Ali Husein ...	58	b Ali Husein	40
M. Watcha, b Ali Husein	8	c Shariff, b Ali Husein..	0
Jam. Antia, c Ali Husein, b Salamudin ...	0	st Syeed, b Ali Husein.	11
Jeh. Antia, b Khan Mohomed	10	b Khan Mohomed ...	14
R. Tata, b Ali Husein	4	b Khan Mohomed ...	1
N. Kapadia, not out	3	not out	4
Extras	0	Extras	9
Total ...	105	Total ...	97

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Salamudin ...	12	4	27	4	6	2	5	0
Ali Husein ...	12	2	36	5	16	2	45	5
Syed Husein ...	4	0	9	0	...	...	...	...
Khan Mohomed...	4	0	33	1	11	1	38	5

M. A. O. COLLEGE, ALIGARH.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Syeed Mohomed, b Watcha	0	b Driver	1
Shariff, b Antia	0	lbw Driver	0
Zainulabad, b Antia	5	b Antia	22
Ikbal Shah, b Antia	5	c Dadachanji, b Driver ...	0
Salamudin, b Driver	58	lbw Driver	3
Ali Husein, c Gimi, b Watcha	25	b Driver	0
Rashid, b Driver	0	lbw Driver	10

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Wahid Khan, not out	..	...	... 8	run out	...	...	... 0
Syed Hasan, lbw Driver	..	...	... 7	not out	...	..	.. 4
Khan Mohomed, b Antia	...	...	... 9	c Pulwanker, b Driver			... 2
Syed Hussein, b Antia	...	...	... 2	c Daver, b Driver...			... 1
	Extras	..	... 11		Extras	...	... 5
		Total	... 130			Total	... 48

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Watcha ...	18	5	38	2	...	...	...	...
Antia ...	15	4	36	5	8	1	23	1
Tata ...	3	1	3	0	...	...	...	...
Pulwanker...	3	0	10	0	...	...	...	...
Daver ...	3	0	10	0	...	...	...	...
Driver ...	12	4	22	3	8	3	20	8

We have not words sufficient to thank the Aligarh College for their kind entertainment and typical Mohomedan hospitality which they accorded to us during our short stay. The whole team was impressed by their congenial and sporting spirit, good *camaraderie* and excellent discipline. After dinner we bade *Khoda Hafiz* to our numerous friends and left the last scene of victory.

In the morning of the 31st we arrived at Agra and spent a pleasant day in seeing the Taj, Eatmad-ud-daula, Secundra and other monuments, which do credit to the æsthetic tastes of the Mogals. In the evening, our captain met with an accident and severely injured one of his ribs by falling into an ash-pit in trying to cross the rails in the dark. We left Agra on the night of the same day and arrived at Jaipur the next morning. But the stay here was spoilt by the illness of our secretary, who had to be carried to Bombay on bed.

We left Jaipur on the 2nd Jan. and arriving at Grant Road on the 3rd, concluded our tour with an agreeable glow of satisfaction and with a brilliant record on which we might reasonably

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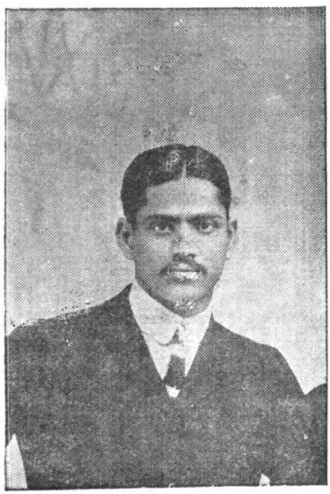
plume ourselves. Though the fixtures were insufficient quantitatively, owing to the cancellation of the matches at Peshawar and Alwar during the operations of the tour, yet the high quality both of the matches played and our successful achievement in them were undeniable. The matches were full of exciting incidents. But of all, never will the bowling miracle of Driver against the Aligarh will be forgotten, nor the excellent batting performance at Patiala of Gimi and Pulwanker, whose accession to the team had much to do with its success. He was the hero of the tour. There have been years when Kharas, Jeh. Antia, Gimi, Mulla, Driver and Watcha have helped the side substantially, but there has been seldom an occasion, when our team had to rely entirely on the substantial score of one single man. Out of 733 runs scored on tour, he claimed 257, and was twice not out and once run out. His innings of 101 (N. O.) was a unique performance and will always rank as the most brilliant one ever played on tour.



G. Pulwanker

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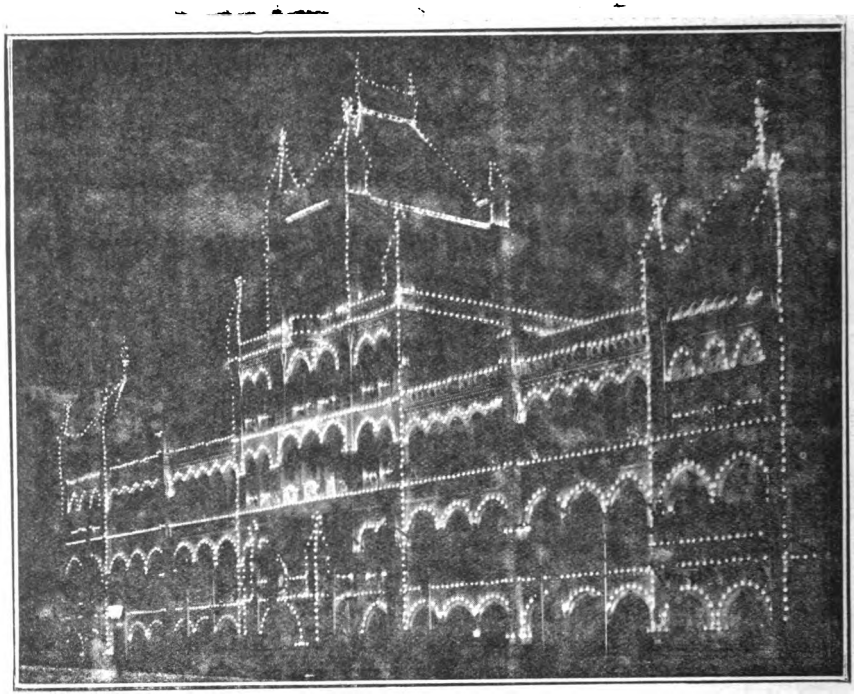

The Elphinstone College

CHAPTER XII.

Conclusion.

Our innings has been rather long, and like most of its kind must come to an end. The detailed events of the tour have been upto now known only to those who were fortunate enough to join the tours. The publicatio n of this book may enlighten Elphs. in general, who know little about them, as well as save the achievements, as brilliant and meritorious as those peformed by the College in the academical branch, from the utter oblivion into which they might otherwise be cast. Even the score sheets have been destroyed and the services of those who helped to make those valuable tour records have passed away 'unwept,

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unsung.' It is one of the drawbacks of our time, that in the selfishness of the present moments, the interest of future generations is given a bye path; for what may not interest the present, will be devoured with eagerness by future generations. Who does not like to run over the old records, wherein are set the brilliant achievements of the heroes of old times, whether their deeds have been on the battle or on the cricket field? Our tour record is indeed worthy of conservation. To Elphs. in general, it will furnish details of the sporting achievements of their brothers abroad, while to a tourist, it will bring back surging on his mind, a flood of happy memories of delightful associations, of keen contests, merry dinners, good humoured and witty discussions of questions and pleasant hardships. That the tour has done immense good to the College and to Elphs. is self evident. Ever since S. Mulla struck the Promethean fire, it has been carried out on the progressive lines so well chalked out by him, and every year has seen new fields attacked and fresher glories and laurels acquired. We have advanced cautiously and tentatively and during the twelve years, we have exploited all the sporting centres of India and diffused the fair name of the College throughout the length and breadth of India. There is scarcely any prominent cricket field in India, which has not resounded with the clang of our willow hammer.

The tour has been voted on all sides an unqualified success, and much of this is due to the happy co-operation of the members and to the sympathetic consideration accorded to the secretary by the various Principals and the professors, who happened to rule the destiny of the College from time to time. There was a time when the infant tour would have gone to an early grave; but fortunately those murky clouds have passed away; the booming guns of the 'wreckers' are silent for ever. The tour is one of the most valuable and enviable assets of the College. It is a potent educational factor which no teaching institution can afford to neglect. No education on Western lines can be said to be complete without adequate attempts being made to widen the

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compass of the mental horizon by journeys to various cities and countries. In this respect, we are ahead of the times, for while school journey associations have only just been started in England and while the Government of India has only recently made provision for historical excursion trips, the Elph. College has already a permanent annual tour which gives its students the most valuable advantage of education by travelling. Apart from the educational point of view, its benefits as a social and political cementor are numerous. Its advantages as a whole can never be over estimated. Nothing tends to bring the European professors and the various classes of students into closer touch and to assimilate their tastes and ideas, better than a few days' close association on tour. It kills inter-racial prejudices, destroys selfishness, makes up for discipline, teaches to be generous even in hositility and creates that "fellow feeling which makes man wondrous kind." All throughout there has been a splendid spirit of *camaraderie* amongst the professors and the members of the team, whether Hindoos or Parsees, and there has been a complete sinking of personal desires and grievances into happy co-operation and brotherhood. The maintenance of a high standard of discipline, so dear to Elphs. has swayed all other considerations and with whatever results the team has emerged from the cricket field, it has ' played the game ' right upto the hilt. If it has been defeated, at times miserably too, it has accepted its defeats and disasters like sportsmen. Of course there have been occasions for hot discussions, but those have been like bubbles on a hot surface, lasting so long as the heat remained. It can be said with pride that the team has left a good and great name behind, both as regards its behaviour on the cricket field and in drawing room. All its members have been imbued with the true spirit of the game and actuated by one motive, to keep the fair name of the *Alma Mater* free from blemish and taint. The tourists have done as much, if not more to diffuse the name and fame of the College, as those literary giants whose names adorn our scholastic history. We strongly urge thos e who happen to be in charge of the College not to

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remove their patronising and helping hand from this splendid phase of our sporting life and let it be the bounden duty of all those who hereafter happen to take part in the tour, to keep alive the glorious spirit, that has kept right and straight and mantained the high prestige of the College, which has taken twelve years and over to build, nay enhance it, so that they may in their turn hand down to their successors even a better heritage.

We now come to the financial aspect of the tour. So far the tour has been quite self supporting and has been run all along from funds raised from the members themselves. There have been solitary instances when financial help was forthcoming from enthusiastic Elphs ; but their numbers are conspicuously few. The College has not given her share for the glories and laurels brought before her door every year. Whether it is incumbent on the College Gymkhana to vote a grant for the financial support of the tour, the benefits of which are open to all present students, is an open question. We at least do not want to enter into the merits of the case. The question is, should the existing arrangement go on *ad infinetum*? With the increased cost of travelling and the progressive difficulties in finding hospitable shelter, the task of running a tour has gone beyond manageable extent and with the scanty supply of 'freshers' and the financial starvation the prospects of a long and healthy career are rather grave. We have now our grand parent society, the Elph. Society, one of whose aims and objects is to aid the other institutes of the College, and we therefore urge upon its President, Secretary, and Members of the Committee the obligation to devote some part of their attention and interest to the tour. Once an appeal for financial help was made to them but we deplore their quiescence in the matter and their lack of sympathy in strengthening the hands of the tour secretary in grappling with financial difficulties. The tour secretary has to contend with various difficulties, and it is just that a part of the burden of the financial difficulties should be taken away from his shoulder. As was once remarked, "The

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full import of the term *tour* in all its fearful significance is apprehended only by the unfortunate secretary who conducts it. To him it means the labour and worry of months, voluminous correspondence, complicated accounts, risk, responsibility, insults, importunities, days of dispute, nights of deliberation, heaps of telegrams, cart-loads of letters, the toil of a donkey, and the wages of a dog. He has to train, drill, direct, persuade, exhort, encourage the raw recruits in his hands. He has to see them fed and put to bed. He has to mind all the perplexing details of a confounded Railway service, obtaining concessions, reserving berths, booking the luggage ; to teach geography to boys who believe Delhi to be in Ceylon and Ceylon in Kattyawar, and expect their carriages to be thrown into sidings, on the play-ground ; to administer the quinine pill to all, and himself swallow the more bitter one of ungrateful criticism." In view of all these, it is fair to expect the Society to shoulder the burden of managing the tours, which at present is entirely cast on the tour secretary. The Society is now in flourishing state, and the time is ripe when the Society should come forward with its parental love and recognise the tour as its legitimate infant and give the financial nourishment which it so badly needs. Elphs. have done many acts of charity and we believe that the excellent virtue has not finally exhausted its force and should the Society move the matter, concerning the financial position of the tour, we have every reason to believe that handsome help would be forthcoming for such a laudable purpose. The tour has done enough to raise the College as a giant sporting institute ; let this consideration induce the Elphs, to loosen their purse strings.

But we have not yet reached the highest rung of our ambition. We have travelled 25,000 miles, but still our ultimate goal is far and distant and at the present moment scarcely visible. Despite its extensive area, India is proving too compact for our wants. We require further room for expansion. The progressive pace has been well kept up, and a few years more may see

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the map of our tour completely changed. A tour to Burma during December 1913 was nearly arranged, but owing to the inability of some of our best bowlers to join it, the idea had to be abandoned. We have exhausted all the principal cricket centres of India and have repeated them once over and the proposal made by Principal Covernton at the Graduates Lunch to make a tour to China or Japan is quite natural though scarcely practicable. Though a tour to the land of 'Pig Tails' and 'Enchin Manchau' is not to be thought of, still the idea of taking an Elph. team to England, is one that should commend itself to all true lovers of the College and its sports, from the educational, social and political point of view. Of course the idea at present sounds like an utterance in a dream but there is scarcely anything which Elphs. have not achieved if they have once laid their hands to it; and it is to Elphs. who have spent their life time over the cause of Indian cricket that we naturally turn to lend us their helping hand. It will perhaps be remembered that the visit of the Indian Team to England was for the most part due to the streneous efforts of one of our greatest Elph cricketers, Mr. J. M. Framjee Patel, who has done more than anybody else in raising the status, not only of Parsee cricket but of Indian cricket, to such a high and dignified level. To quote the words of no less an authority on Indian cricket than H. E. Lord Harris, "Mr. Framjee Patel has proved himself a Patron of Cricket in its best sense, for by his own example on the field he encouraged the younger generation to play the game earnestly as a great educational medium, yet enjoyable as a pastime, keenly for the single hour of success and with good temper for the greater comfort of all concerned."

Mr. Patel's hair has turned grey in labouring after the cause of Indian cricket, of which College cricket forms one of the principal branches; and it is on this branch that we depend for the healthy condition of the parent trunk. Mr. Patel played a part in the acquisition of our ground during the regime of H. E. Lord Harris and unostentatiously did his best to prevent it from

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being snatched lately. Mr. Patel has viewed cricket not only as a great game, but as an institute, to teach discipline, self-restrain, patience and other manly and moral qualities to its votaries. He has always advocated for matches to be played on the lines of the Quadrangular Contests, not only in the Bombay Presidency but in the various provinces of India, to bring the various communities of India into closer touch and to promote better understanding between the rulers and the ruled. Certainly during the present political state of India, we require greater number of cosmopolitan clubs, greater number of international matches and more frequent exchange of visits between England and India, rather than enlarged councils. With Mr. Patel as the nucleus of the organisation it is possible that those great sporting *sakhees*, who helped him to successfully manœuvre the financial task of the last undertaking, would be forthcoming with their generous contribution. We can vouchsafe the success of our undertaking from the sporting point of view. We have a strong array of excellent cricketers and if these could be gathered together, we could face some of the club and college teams of England. We have produced and have still in possession mighty cricketers to do battle for our side, and had the excellent pace with which we supplied players five years back for the Bombay international contests, been kept up and our beautiful ground remained in our possession, it would not be too much to claim that in a few years, Elphs. would have represented the Parsees. If Major Mistry, P. Telang, G. Karaka, J. Mody, H. Mulla, S. Chothia, D. Kapadia, M. Watcha, M. Neksatkhan, G. Pulwanker, H. Gimi, Jeh. Antia and A. Driver could be mustered together, the team would prove one of the most formidable combinations in India, well armed at all points. With this team in full trim and training, the visit to England to meet some of the second class counties and colleges would scarcely be a failure from the cricket point of view even in the minds of the most pessimistic. But finance is the greatest barrier; and it is not impossible to

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remove it so long as we have Elphs. like Sir Cowasji, Sir Shapurji and Sir Narayan taking interest in the affairs of the college, and non-Elphs. like the sporting Tata brothers, so well known for their catholic and sporting charities. The players have played well and enough and if those great *sakhees* open their innings, the Elph. College may claim to be not only the greatest touring institute in India but one of the greatest in the world. *Excelsior* !

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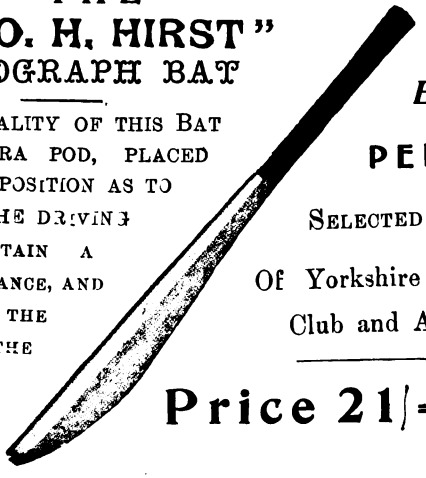

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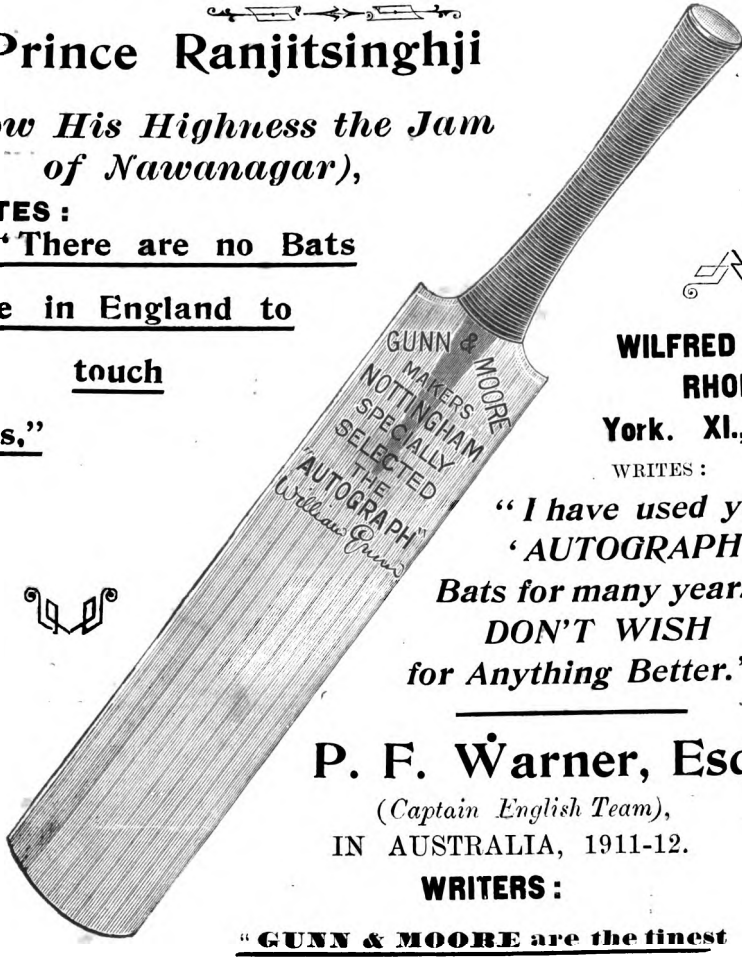

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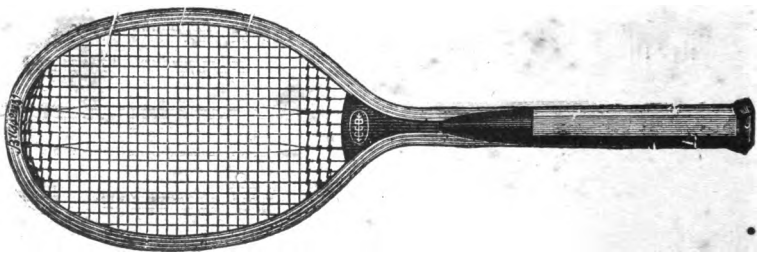

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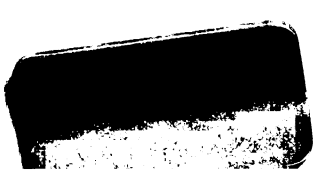

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